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ASEAN Ministers, Postministerial Meetings Held

Laos Plans Cooperation Proposal

BK2207044993 Singapore BUSINESS TIMES in English 21 Jul 93 p 3

[Text] SINGAPORE—Laos will table a comprehensive economic cooperation plan at the ASEAN foreign ministers' meeting, the thrust of which is a proposal to conclude investment guarantee agreements between Laos and ASEAN, said the country's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Somsavat Lengsavat.

In an interview with BUSINESS TIMES in his hotel suite after his arrival yesterday, Mr Somsavat said: "We wish to sign such treaties with ASEAN countries to provide protection to their foreign investments. We will propose it at this meeting.

"We have already signed treaties on protection and promotion of investments with Malaysia in late-1992, and with Thailand in 1991. Our plan is to sign similar treaties with Singapore, Indonesia, the Philippines and Brunei."

He added: "If we sign such treaties, it will provide a guarantee to those who wish [to] invest in Laos, and it also becomes legally binding. The investors will feel more confident of doing business.

"We plan to discuss with our ASEAN colleagues about how to strengthen economic co-operation in terms of trade relations, foreign investments finance and tourism. The main thrust of our proposal is economic in nature."

Asked what is the main focus of Laos' participation, Mr Somsavat said: "The focus is economic. Our participation in the meeting will enhance cooperation between Laos and all members of ASEAN. This is the first time that we are attending an ASEAN meeting as observers. It is a good opportunity for our delegation to hold discussions with ASEAN."

Laos and Vietnam last year embarked on a process of integrating with ASEAN when they signed the ASEAN Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in South-east Asia.

The largest foreign investors in Laos are Thai firms which have invested about US$ 160 million (S$259 million) in about 110 projects, out of total foreign investments of about US$500 million in the country.

"There are also a few investments from Singapore and Malaysia. But we haven't yet received any investments from the Philippines, Brunei and Indonesia," the minister said.

Asked if Thai investors had monopolised some sections of the Laotion economy, such as banking, he said: "We have a different opinion on this. Our government's policy is to welcome foreign investments and strengthen broad co-operation with and investment from all countries."

At least eight banks backed by Thai interests have either set up branches in the Laotian capital Vientiane or are planning to do so.

"Because Thailand is our immediate neighbour, that's why they have gone ahead and invested before the others. Of course we also have certain firms from Australia, France, Britain, Canada and Germany doing business in Laos," he added.

Russia Plans New Regional Proposals

BK2307132093 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 23 Jul 93 p 26

[Text] Russia will present new proposals to foster economic cooperation and maintain stability in the Asia-Pacific region when it meets ASEAN and the grouping's dialogue partners here, Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev said last night.

He said that the Russian Federation, which straddled both Europe and Asia, shared a common interest and responsibility with Asia-Pacific countries.

"Because of our location in central Eurasia, we have an equal say and interest in the East, the West, and the Asia-Pacific," he told reporters on arrival at Changi Airport.

He declined to elaborate on the proposals, but added that he was not presenting a "take-it-or-leave-it" suggestion in his talks with his counterparts from ASEAN.

Mr. Kozyrev is here to attend the ASEAN ministerial meeting, which begins today, as a guest.

Besides a consultative meeting with the six ASEAN foreign ministers tomorrow, he will also attend an informal dinner with his counterparts from ASEAN, the seven dialogue countries—China, Vietnam, Laos, and Papua New Guinea on Sunday.

Mr. Kozyrev welcomed "constructive engagement" of all countries in the region, saying that "we are all in the same boat in Asia-Pacific's security."

He also defended Russia's intended arms sales to countries in the region and its military presence in Cam Ranh Bay, saying that "our military hardware is beneficial to stability in the region."

Malaysia has announced its intention to buy a squadron of Russian MIG-29s and eight American-made F/A18D Hornet tactical fighters.

Kuala Lumpur is also reported to be considering purchasing Russian-made anti-tank helicopters as part of its plan to create attack helicopter squadrons.

Moscow's arms-sales pitch has raised concerns in the U.S., which is worried that its efforts to curb the spread of advanced weapons may be undermined by Russia's need for cash.

Mr. Kozyrev last night maintained that both the arms sales and the Russian military presence in the region no longer posed a threat to countries in the Asia-Pacific.

"It is our input into keeping stability and balance in the region," he said.

"What this region needs, and other regions, is balance in a multipolar, not unipolar or bipolar world." [sentence as published]

He said that Russia was forging a new partnership with the United States and other Western countries for a more secure world.

"Partnership goes hand in hand with balance with each other," he added.

Goh Chok Tong Talks With Qian Qichen

BK2307131293 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 23 Jul 93 p 1

[Text] Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong said yesterday that China and Singapore should expand ties with countries in the region for the security and economic development of Asia over the next 20 to 30 years.

There should be regional dialogues on peace and security to build mutual confidence and ensure that economic competition did not result in conflict, he told Chinese Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, who called on him at the istana [palace].

Mr. Goh said there was also a need for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum to discuss trade frictions and resolve misunderstandings.

He stressed that Singapore supported APEC.

According to the prime minister's press secretary, Mr. Qian told Mr. Goh that China endorsed the idea of a prosperous, peaceful, and stable Asia-Pacific region.

He said China supported economic cooperation within the APEC framework and agreed with Mr. Goh on the need to minimise trade friction.

The region's strength would be immeasurable if all countries concentrated on economic development, said Mr. Qian, who arrived here on Wednesday for a two-day official visit.

He said economic development was the key factor in China's cooperation with Singapore and the other ASEAN countries.

He also explained that the recent measures taken by Beijing to deal with its overheating economy were not intended to slow down China's growth.

They were to ensure that such growth continued to benefit China and the region, he said.

Earlier, Mr. Qian met his Singapore counterpart, Mr. Wong Kan Seng.

He told Mr. Wong that China would be pleased to take part in regional security dialogues with ASEAN.

China had peaceful intentions in the region, he said.

According to a Foreign Ministry statement, Mr. Wong explained ASEAN's purpose in initiating the ASEAN Regional Forum, which China will be invited to join.

He said ASEAN wanted to take advantage of favourable conditions in the Asia-Pacific region to create an environment that would enable the region's economic growth to continue.

The statement said the two ministers agreed that there was a basis of cooperation to achieve this goal as all Asia-Pacific countries had made economic development their top priority.

Mr. Wong said that Singapore and other countries in the region welcomed China's economic growth and saw its prosperity as in their own interests.

But he noted that some countries were concerned about China's military modernisation and how this would affect Chinese claims on the disputed Spratly islands in the South China Sea.

All or some of the potentially oil-rich and strategically-sited islands are claimed by China, Taiwan, Vietnam, Malaysia, Brunei, and the Philippines.

International awareness of the overlapping claims and their potential for conflict have been heightened by reports that Beijing has built a military airbase in the nearby Paracel islands.

Beijing has denied the reports.

Mr. Wong said he hoped China would reassure concerned countries of its peaceful intentions in the South China Sea, adding that regional security dialogues were an important way of building confidence.

Mr. Qian stressed that China's intentions were peaceful and its economic development was a factor for stability in the region.

He will attend the ASEAN ministerial meeting beginning today as a guest of the chairman of the Asean Standing Committee.

Singapore is this year's chairman.

He will also hold talks with the six ASEAN foreign ministers this afternoon.

Qian Qichen Views SRV Issues

OW2407130693 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in Mandarin 0830 GMT 24 Jul 93

[From the "News" program]

[Text] During their meeting in Singapore on 22 July, Chinese Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Qian

Qichen and Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam affirmed that the China and Vietnam will resolve their pending border and territorial issues through negotiations. The two foreign ministers attached great importance to the upcoming official visit to China by Vietnamese President Le Duc Anh.

Lao Foreign Minister Somsavat Lengsavat also met with Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen in Singapore.

Cambodian Minister on Khmer Rouge

BK2307132493 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 23 Jul 93 p 26

[Text] Cambodia's foreign minister yesterday said that Phnom Penh should be left alone to negotiate a political solution with the Khmer Rouge following Washington's threat to deny desperately needed aid to the war-torn country if the radical Marxist faction was included in a new government.

Speaking to reporters shortly after arriving from Phnom Penh, Prince Norodom Sirivut said: "Let Cambodia find out itself how to go about national reconciliation."

If the Khmer Rouge were reasonable, he said, "we want them to return to the national community and be reconciled."

"The Khmer Rouge are Khmers. We do not want the country to be partitioned, we want to be seen as one sovereign nation. He added that ASEAN support was critical to secure international aid to rebuild post-war Cambodia. This would be the focus of his talks with ASEAN ministers.

He is in Singapore as a "special guest" at the ASEAN ministerial meeting which begins today.

ASEAN countries support the view that the task of reconciling Cambodia's rival factions, including the Khmer Rouge, is best left to the Cambodians themselves.

United States Deputy Secretary of State Clifton Wharton said in Washington on Monday that the U.S. "would find it extremely difficult" to support or provide aid to Cambodia if the Khmer Rouge was included in any new government.

Mr. Wharton, the highest-ranking U.S. official to visit Phnom Penh since the Khmer Rouge seized power in 1975, was repeating a point made earlier during a recent meeting with Cambodian head of state Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

Royalist leader Prince Norodom Ranariddh said last Friday that France had also threatened to cancel a defence cooperation pact with Cambodia if the Khmer Rouge was allowed to join a new unified army.

UN Urged To Stay in Cambodia

BK2307135493 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 23 Jul 93 p 26

[Text] ASEAN countries last night urged the United Nations to remain in Cambodia after the expiry of its mandate there next month.

In a statement issued after an informal working dinner, the foreign ministers of the six member-states said:

"We call on the United Nations Security Council to once again muster the political will and the resources of the international community, as it did in the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), to continue to work in partnership with the Cambodian people to achieve durable peace and stability."

The ministers also called on the world community to help Cambodia rebuild its shattered infrastructure, political, social, and economic institutions.

The statement said the International Conference on the Reconstruction of Cambodia should disburse immediately the aid which was already pledged for Cambodia's reconstruction at the Tokyo conference in June last year.

UNTAC's peacekeeping role in Cambodia had helped to create the conditions for the successful conduct of free and fair elections there, it noted.

"With the expiry of UNTAC's mandate, Cambodia enters a new phase of peace-building."

The ministers welcomed the formation of the provisional national government of Cambodia.

It was an important step towards national reconciliation based on a new Constitution to be drafted by the elected Constituent Assembly, the statement said.

Reiterating ASEAN's support for efforts by Cambodian Head of State Prince Norodom Sihanouk to unify the country, the statement said: "We hope that all Cambodians will continue to set aside factional interests and work towards national reconciliation."

ASEAN countries were encouraged by the relatively calm and stable situation in Cambodia, it added.

"These conditions depend on the continued functioning of the administrative and security apparatus in Cambodia.

"We recognise the urgent need to provide emergency financial assistance in support of the administrative, police, and military structures of the interim joint administration.

"To this end, we urge the United Nations to speedily meet this requirement from existing funds and other sources."

EAEC Should Be 'Linked' to APEC

BK2307131693 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 23 Jul 93 p 26

[Text] Indonesia yesterday said the proposed East Asia Economic Caucus [EAEC] should come under the umbrella of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation [APEC] forum.

Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said this was the most logical step to take in order to avoid any "misinterpretation, misperception, and misgivings" about the Malaysian idea to form the EAEC.

Malaysia's proposal for the all-Asian economic entity to boost economic cooperation and thwart protectionism excludes APEC members such as the United States, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.

Mr. Alatas, who was speaking to reporters on his arrival here to attend the ASEAN ministerial meeting, said that unless the EAEC was linked to APEC, the proposal "cannot get off the ground."

Malaysia differs sharply with Indonesia on modalities for the EAEC. It wants to create the EAEC as a forum linked to the annual ASEAN economic ministers' meeting.

Malaysian Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, who also arrived in Singapore yesterday, was reluctant to discuss the issue.

Asked to comment on Mr. Alatas' remarks that the EAEC should be linked to APEC, he said: "I have my views and he has his views.

We will discuss it in the ASEAN way."

Mr. Alatas said ASEAN members had already agreed on the principles and central features of the EAEC. What remained to be discussed was where the EAEC would best fit.

This matter remained unresolved at the end of the senior officials' meeting earlier this week.

The U.S. has not supported the EAEC because it fears that it could become an inward-looking Asian trade bloc against the developed countries.

There are also fears among some Asian countries—potential EAEC members such as Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan—that it is unwise to exclude the U.S. from the proposed grouping.

Mr. Alatas alluded to this when he said yesterday that despite ASEAN's agreement on the basics of the EAEC, there continued to be misperceptions and misgivings about it.

This had come both from "countries we would consider including in the EAEC and from countries outside of it," he said.

"This is a problem which continues now and should be the one we ought to resolve. Otherwise the EAEC cannot get off the ground."

On the ASEAN meeting, the two foreign ministers welcomed the move to create an ASEAN Regional Forum to discuss political and security matters.

Datuk Abdullah said he would study the proposal which will bring together the six ASEAN countries, their dialogue partners—Japan, the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Korea, and the European Community—as well as China, Russia, Vietnam, Papua New Guinea, and Laos.

"If the proposal is unanimously agreed on, I will have no difficulty in accepting," he said, adding that security matters were becoming increasingly important to ASEAN.

He also welcomed the security dialogue with Russia and China, saying that it was important to develop a better understanding with these two countries.

"We need to reassure each other that we all want peace and stability. It is important for reassurances to be made."

The ASEAN foreign ministers will meet their counterparts from the dialogue partners as well as China, Russia, Vietnam, Laos, and Papua New Guinea over an informal dinner on Sunday. The occasion, in effect, marks the launch of the latest ASEAN forum to discuss security and political issues in the region.

Philippine Foreign Secretary Roberto Romulo said the talks ought to be "frank and forthcoming."

Talks With PRC 'Upgraded'

BK2407150593 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Report from Singapore by Correspondent Chittinan Watthanucha—date not given]

[Text] ASEAN has upgraded its talks with China as a dialogue partner, and Cambodia is attending the ASEAN ministerial meeting as a guest of Singapore which is the host country of the current meeting of ASEAN foreign ministers.

When asked about China's role regarding the ASEAN region, Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen said China is now undergoing development and it will seek to promote peace and stability in the region as well as in the world community. To ASEAN's question about China's role regarding the reconstruction of Cambodia, especially about China's position regarding the Khmer Rouge, the Chinese foreign minister said China will try to achieve a durable peace for Cambodia. China disagrees with the policy of the Khmer Rouge, but again it does not endorse intervention in Cambodia or sanctions against the Khmer Rouge. It is the duty of the Cambodian people to solve their own problems with patience.

Asked about the Spratley Islands dispute in the South China Sea, China noted that negotiations have been held to seek a solution to the problem. Countries involved should try to reach a common stand on mutual benefits among the disputing countries. The problem should be settled based along this line.

For the first time, Cambodia is attending a meeting with the ASEAN countries, especially after forming an interim government. It appealed for help from ASEAN countries in the form of uniforms for its national military and police forces. Cambodia also wants assistance in vocational training apart from financial support from the United Nations to consolidate national reconciliation and stability in Cambodia. Concerning the role of the Khmer Rouge and its participation in the government formation, Cambodian Foreign Minister Prince Norodom Sirivut declined to answer questions on this subject.

Regarding the ASEAN attitude toward the U.S. position of withdrawing help for Cambodian reconstruction should the Khmer Rouge be included in the government, Thailand's Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri noted that the ASEAN stand is to see the Cambodian people solve their own problems. ASEAN emphasizes Cambodian national reconciliation. He said that ASEAN will have nothing to do with the U.S. position.

PRC Foreign Minister on Khmer Rouge

OW2307153493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1504 GMT 23 Jul 93

[Text] Singapore, July 23 KYODO—China said Friday (23 July) it does not support the policies of Cambodia's radical Khmer Rouge faction, which it backed through 13 years of civil war against the Vietnamese-installed Phnom Penh Government.

Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen told his counterparts from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) at a bilateral meeting that Beijing believes the question of Cambodia is one of national reconciliation, a conference spokesman said. The Cambodians "should be allowed to settle their problems themselves," Qian was quoted as saying.

In describing the reconciliation process, he used the analogy of slow healing through traditional Chinese medicine rather than an attempt to resolve the matter quickly through surgery, the spokesman said. But Qian voiced optimism over the future of Cambodia, he added.

The communist Khmer Rouge boycotted national elections in May that led to the birth of an interim government, replacing the Hanoi- backed government. But it is seeking participation in the war-ravaged country's post-election political process.

Qian was in Singapore as an ASEAN guest for an annual meeting of foreign ministers from the six-nation grouping.

Qian: PRC Not To Accede to Treaty

BK2407034793 Bangkok THE NATION in English 24 Jul 93 p A3

[Text] Singapore—China would not accede to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation at this time Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen said yesterday.

"Not at this stage," said Qian, who is attending the Asean foreign ministerial meeting.

Qian said the treaty, signed in 1976, is more for countries in the Southeast Asian region.

Asean amended the treaty in 1987 to allow Papua New Guinea (PNG) to accede to the treaty in 1989.

The PNG is not in Southeast Asia.

At the preparatory meeting, Asean senior officials agreed that the treaty is open to accession by other countries both from within and without the region.

Australia and New Zealand have also shown an interest in acceding to the treaty.

Asean would respond in favour of the two countries upon notification.

Ajit Singh's Trip to PRC Viewed

BK2407061993 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0321 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] Singapore, July 24 (OANA-BERNAMA)—ASEAN Secretary General Ajit Singh will lead a delegation to China next month to discuss areas of cooperation, Singapore Foreign Minister Wong Kan Seng said here Friday.

The move is part of a decision taken at the ASEAN ministerial meeting in Manila last year which called for greater economic, scientific, and technological cooperation between the regional grouping and China, he added.

There was vast potential in exploiting trade with China expected to be the biggest single economy in East Asia in 20 to 30 years' time, he said during the ASEAN-China consultative forum of the 26th ASEAN ministerial meeting (AMM) here.

However, Wong said that a peaceful resolution of the Spratlys issue, a flashpoint as the islands were claimed by China and some ASEAN countries, would help develop China-ASEAN relations.

We are encouraged that China is supportive of the informal workshops Indonesia has initiated to work towards joint exploration of the disputed islands, he added.

For ASEAN, trade with China meant an increase in growth by between half to one percent each year. Its economic diversification would result in a whole network of cross investments and trade which would stimulate the regional economies, he said.

Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, who spoke to reporters earlier, said ASEAN would be very happy if China acceded to the grouping's Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC).

He added, however, that it was more important to get China's commitment to ensure peace and stability in the region irrespective of any treaty they signed.

We look forward to an assurance from China that all disputes would be settled through peaceful means, he said.

Regional Cooperation on Agenda

BK2307103793 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0902 GMT 23 Jul 93

[From Azhar Ghazali]

[Text] Singapore, July 23 (OANA/BERNAMA)—The two-day 26th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM) began here Friday, with regional security and ways to enhance economic cooperation high on the agenda for discussions.

Before the six ASEAN foreign ministers gathered here is a proposal to establish an ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) for the grouping to discuus security issues with its dialogue partners, the re-construction of Cambodia and the extension of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC). [as received]

The meeting will also discuss the modalities for implementing the proposed East Asia Economic Caucus (EAEC) as well as further commitment by members to realise the Asean Free Trade Area (AFTA) earlier than the scheduled 15 years.

Included in the agenda was U.S. President Bill Clinton's proposal for a summit of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum in Seattle in November, which drew conflicting views among ASEAN members.

Addressing the meeting held at the Raffles City Convention Centre here, Singapore Foreign Minister Wong Kan Seng, who is chairing the AMM, said: We have a full agenda, but I am sure we will tackle it efficiently and in the ASEAN spirit of consensus and consultation.

Setting the tone for the meeting, Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong called for greater consultation and cooperation in all areas, especially those pertaining to security matters.

A forward-looking, realistic and creative ASEAN can help shape the new pattern of relationships in Asia Pacific, he said in his keynote address.

Philippine Foreign Secretary Roberto Romulo and his Thai counterpart Prasong Sunsiri are attending the AMM For the first time since taking over their posts from Raul Manglapus and Asa Sarasin, respectively.

Papua New Guinea Foreign Minister John Kaputin, Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam and Laotian Foreign Minister Somsavat Lengsavat are attending the AMM as observers.

Chinese Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev are guests of ASEAN while Prince Norodom Sirivut, the Cambodian foreign minister, is a special guest.

The meeting will also discuss applications from Mexico, Pakistan and Mongolia to establish dialogue relationships with ASEAN, a reflection of the growing importance attached to the 26-year-old grouping.

The proposed ARF, aims to bring together the ASEAN Countries, its dialogue partners and the regional powers China, Russia and Vietnam for consultations on security and political issues.

The proposal was not expected to meet objection from the seven dialogue partners—Australia, Canada, the European Community (EC), Japan, New Zealand, South Korea and the United States.

Going by what the ministers said on their arrival here, it was evident that they were in favour of the forum recommended by their officials.

Senior officials also indicated that efforts would be pursued to extend the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation to include China, seen as a major player in the security of the region following in the post-cold war era.

All eyes will also be on U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, who is making his maiden appearance at the Post Ministerial Conference (PMC) where he is expected to underscore the Clinton administration's commitment to the Asia Pacific.

Scheduled to arrive here Saturday, Christopher, who succeded James Baker, has been reported as saying the United States expected to participate actively in the multi-lateral security discussions initiated by the ASEAN nations and other countries in Asia.

He is also expected to take the opportunity to garner support from the member countries to respond positively to Clinton's proposal for an APEC summit.

Consensus Reached on EAEC Modality

BK2407061793 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0339 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] Singapore, July 24 (OANA-BERNAMA)—ASEAN has reached a consensus to operationalise the East Asia Economic Caucus (EAEC) through the ASEAN economic ministers (AEM) meeting, Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said here.

Seen as a major step towards moving forward the realisation of the caucus, Abdullah said the grouping's economic ministers would be given the task of thrashing out the operational details when they meet her in October.

Despite various modalities put forward, the AEM track was logical as it was set up by ASEAN, he told Malaysian newsmen at a briefing late Friday night at the Raffles Hotel.

Abdullah said this following a dinner after the end of the first day of the closed-door session of the 26th ASEAN ministerial meeting (AMM) which would be followed by the post-ministerial conference (PMC) next week.

He also said that ASEAN Secretary General Ajit Singh would review in depth the modality accepted and present it to the AEM to deliberate on how best to operationalise the caucus.

Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed, in mooting the idea three years ago, said the EAEC should be a loose consultative forum enabling discussions on common economic interests of East Asian countries.

Since then, many quarters had recognised that the EAEC, which later progressed into an ASEAN proposal, could promote economic dynamism in the region and contribute to the enhancement of an open global trading system.

Abdullah said the EAEC would have greater meaning if the East Asian countries such as Japan, South Korea, and China came into its fold, thus enhancing the voice of ASEAN and East Asian economies in international economic relations.

He also clarified a statement issued earlier in the night by the media secretariat after the first closed-door session that the ministers were considering the possibility of making the EAEC a caucus within the APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation) forum and linking it to the AEM.

What it meant was that the EAEC was a caucus whose members in ASEAN were incidentally also members of APEC and, as such, the words a caucus within APEC contained in the statement issued by an unidentified spokesman could give rise to misinterpretations.

He said the EAEC was separate from APEC and that it would only be operational through AEM, adding that the statement was issued without consulting the Malaysian delegation, which was why he had to make a clarification.

Alatas on South China Sea Issue

BK2407120793 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 24 Jul 93 p 26

[Text] Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas yesterday said ASEAN would continue to find ways to transform the South China Sea into an area of cooperation without prejudicing the various claims over the Spratlys.

He disclosed that ASEAN officials would be holding an informal workshop on the South China Sea in Surabaya, Indonesia next month.

Philippine Foreign Minister Roberto Romulo, in his opening statement, said the prospects for permanent peace in the South China Sea could be improved vastly if the countries concerned reached a definitive settlement.

However, he said, tensions had been reduced greatly by the consensus to shelve the question of sovereignty and jurisdiction until its resolution was possible politically.

"Shelving had bought us time," he said.

"Let us use this time to reduce tensions and assemble the building blocks of peace rather than to manoeuvre for advantage or to test one another's capacity and resolve."

China, Taiwan, Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia, and Brunei claim some or all of the potentially oil-rich Spratly islands in the South China Sea.

Singapore's Foreign Minister Wong Kan Seng said that constructive approaches in preventive diplomacy such as the ASEAN Declaration on the South China Sea and Indonesian initiatives on informal workshops had helped to strengthen conditions for regional peace and stability.

On the continuing search for a peaceful solution to the Spratly disputes, ASEAN had begun a review of Southeast Asia as a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality (ZOPFAN) and nuclear weapons-free zone.

Mr. Alatas noted that changing relationships among the major powers would lead ASEAN towards a new global security environment. The need for ZOPFAN and a nuclear-free zone had become more evident now.

He added that the Cambodian peace process was another factor conducive to ASEAN efforts to translate the ZOPFAN idea into reality. "We should now continue and intensify our consultations with the other regional states and especially with the major powers in order to convince them of the continuing relevance of ZOPFAN," he said.

Cambodia Appeals for Soldiers' Aid

BK2407033993 Bangkok THE NATION in English 24 Jul 93 p A2

[Excerpt] Cambodian Foreign Minister Prince Norodom Sirivut yesterday appealed to Asean for assistance to help his country absorb thousands of demobilized soldiers into civilian life.

Sirivut said Asean could help in efforts to reassign soldiers to work in agricultural projects, rubber plantations public health, irrigation work and vocation training.

There are more than 100,000 unskilled soldiers belonging to all Cambodian factions who could be demobilized, he said.

Sirivut also asked Asean for uniforms for Cambodia's new national armed forces.

"This would have an important psychological impact vis-a-vis national reconciliation and nation-building," he said.

The minister, who was invited as a special Asean guest, made the requests at a meeting with Asean foreign ministers yesterday.

He said that to nurture loyalty toward the interim government and the government to be formulated in September, priority should now be given to unifying the various armies into a single national armed force and police forces.

Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri, who attended the meeting, quoted Sirivut as saying that Cambodia still needed the UN to assist in economic development and education.

In a separate meeting between Asean and Chinese foreign ministers, Asean saught assurances from China that it would use peaceful means to settle disputes in the Spratly and Paracel island chains, according to Prasong.

Malaysia and the Philippines have asked China to endorse the Asean Declaration on South China Sea to assure Asean and the international community of a peaceful resolution to the disputes, but China said there was no need because Beijing has no hegemonistic ambitions.

In a separate press conference, a Chinese spokesman reaffirmed China's position that the problem in the South China Sea should be discussed bilaterally, without international intervention. [passage omitted]

Cambodian Minister Lists More Needs

BK2407050893 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0316 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] Singapore, July 24 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Appealing for continued ASEAN support, Cambodia listed its immediate needs one of which was obtaining assistance to provide complete uniforms for its new national armed forces.

This would be an important psychological impact vis-a-vis national reconciliation and nation-building, Cambodian Foreign Minister Prince Norodom Sirivut told his ASEAN counterparts during an informal discussion at the 26th ASEAN ministerial meeting (AMM) here Friday.

He said the various armies would have to be unified into a single national armed forces and police force to nurture new loyalty towards the provisional national government of Cambodia (PNGC) and the new government in September.

Prince Sirivut, specially invited to the AMM to discuss Cambodia's reconstruction plans, said the country also needed ASEAN help under various development cooperation programmes to absorb demobilised soldiers into civilian life.

Projects in the fields of agriculture, rubber plantation, irrigation, vocational training, education, and public health are priorities, he added.

Commending the ASEAN private sector for investing in Cambodia, Prince Sirivut gave an assurance that all investments would be protected and encouraged.

We are open to more investments as this would create jobs for our people and develop our human resources, transfer of technology, and help us to export, he said.

He added Cambodia needed much more than the U.S. $1.5 billion spent by the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) to bring about national reconciliation and peace.

There were some quarters who believed more in legal niceties rather than in supporting the practical steps that the Cambodians were taking to achieve national reconciliation, he said.

My simple message and appeal to ASEAN countries is that we still need your moral and material support to win the other half of the battle, that is to say, the rehabilitation of Cambodia, he added.

Ministers Disagree on Human Rights

BK2407041593 Bangkok THE NATION in English 24 Jul 93 p A3

[Text] Foreign ministers of Asean countries were at loggerheads yesterday over the issue of human rights.

The controversy is centred around Singapore's desire to issue a separate statement which the island republic has prepared on human rights principles.

During the preparatory meetings, Asean senior officials were not able to agree on the statement and they referred the matter to their foreign ministers.

The statement will review the recent World Conference on Human Rights held in Vienna.

Foreign Minister Wong Kan Seng had written to Asean foreign ministers prior to the Asean meeting suggesting that the draft statement be considered when they met for a working dinner on Thursday.

According to several Asean officials at the working dinner, Asean foreign ministers were still not able to reach a consensus. Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand feel that there is no need to highlight the world conference, since Asean is party to the Vienna Declaration.

They said Asean must now cooperate to make sure that the Vienna Declaration is being implemented at the regional level.

In his opening statement, Wong said the Vienna conference "resulted in a diplomatic compromise and not a clearcut resolution of the debate.

"At Vienna, it was evident that small groups of countries on both margins of the ideological spectrum between the West and the Third World stood in the way of the development of a genuine new consensus," he said.

He said Asean should play a bridging role to seek out the middle ground.

A Thai official said Singapore felt that the Bangkok Declaration was a bit too confrontational with the West while the Vienna Declaration was too much of a compromise. "So Singapore wants to have an Asean version," he said.

He said Asean foreign ministers had discussed three options for a human rights statement—shelve it, include it in the joint communique or wait until the next Asean meeting.

At Vienna, Asean countries were very active in ensuring that the right to development was reaffirmed and due recognition was given to the interdependence and interrelationship between civil and political rigbts and economic, social and cultural rights.

Singapore, in the draft statement on human rights, has proposed the establishment of a regional mechanism on human rights. It says that universal human rights must be protected with due regard for specific cultural, social economic and political circumstances.

The statement also emphasizes that freedom and national stability are promoted by "a balance between the claims of the individual and those of the community, through which many individual rights are realized."

On linkage between aid and human rights, the statement said any condition placed on development assistance "is detrimental to international cooperation which could undermine an international consensus on human rights.

Members Differ on APEC Summit

BK2407044693 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0312 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] Singapore, July 24 (OANA-BERNAMA)—ASEAN countries will make their own stands on participation at United States-proposed Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit in Seattle in November, Malaysia's foreign minister, Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, said Friday.

He said the decision to let ASEAN countries take their own stands was final, putting to rest any uncertainty over whether ASEAN would reach consensus on the matter.

Malaysia would stick by its decision not to attend the summit called by U.S. President Bill Clinton, he told reporters at the end of the first day of the 26th ASEAN ministerial meeting (AMM) here.

Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed had said he would not attend the summit as he felt that APEC should not be institutionalised or become a regional trading group but should remain in its present form.

When ASEAN joined APEC, there was a tacit understanding among them that APEC should be consultative in nature and not evolve into a forum for negotiations.

It was on this understanding that ASEAN had collectively steered away from adopting a charter for APEC, opting instead for a declaration of principles for cooperation which was adopted at the third APEC ministerial meeting in Seoul in September 1991.

Conference sources said that any matter pertaining to trade and investment, which includes import tariffs and non-trade barriers, should be addressed under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

This is more so since the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations at their recent summit in Tokyo agreed to a market access accord which would pave the way for a successful end to the deadlocked GATT talks.

On the Malaysia-initiated East Asia Economic Caucus (EAEC), an AMM statement said it had considered the possibility of both making the EAEC a caucus within APEC and linking it to the ASEAN economic ministers meeting (AEM).

What remains to be determined is the modality for operationalising the EAEC, said the statement quoting a spokesman of the first closed session of the AMM.

To this end, the foreign ministers have instructed ASEAN Secretary Generel Ajit Singh and the senior officials to work out a viable proposal with a view to making a recommendation to the next AEM that would be held in Singapore in October, it said.

Cooperation To Remove Tariffs Urged

BK2407044593 Bangkok THE NATION in English 24 Jul 93 p A3

[Text] Thailand yesterday urged Asean to adopt a comprehensive plan to strengthen cooperation in new economic areas that will promote the liberalization of trade in the region.

Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri said Asean would be making a "quantum leap forward" by coordinating each Asean country's economic policies, especially the improvement of transportation and communications networks.

In his opening speech, Prasong said the free movement of capital and other financial resources and the harmonization of standards would also supplement and complement the Asean Free Trade Area (Afta).

"As far as Afta is concerned, in order to maintain our competitiveness in the world market, Asean must plan and act in unison."

Prasong said Asean governments must maintain close cooperation with their private sectors, which were considered the dynamic vehicle for Afta's success. Asean's public and private sectors may help each other in the effort to move toward a unified and free Asean market.

"Asean needs to look ahead by continuing to press forward and work resolutely towards the realization of greater intra-Asean trade and economic cooperation," he said.

Thailand, he said, welcomes the agreement to go ahead with a feasibility study for the three-way linkage of southern Thailand, northern Malaysia and Sumatra in Indonesia.

Prasong said this arrangement, together with the existing growth triangle linking Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore, will significantly contribute to closer cooperation within Asean.

The minister also urged Asean to look at the broader picture of world trade. "For even as we are extolling the virtues of economic interdependence, the drive to expand markets has often led to trade conflict and protectionism.

"Some advocates of free trade have not practised what they preached and have often resorted to managed trade and unilateral measures," he said.

He also urged all participants in the Gatt negotiations to redouble their efforts to conclude the Uruguay Round before the end of the year.

Referring to Asean's relationship with Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec), Prasong said Asean must take an active approach within Apec to ensure that its interests are properly safeguarded. "Clearly, Asean must work harder within Apec," he said.

Apart from political and economic matters, the minister said Asean should not ignore the social progress that has been achieved in Asean. "We in Asean should aim at sustainable growth so that we have a model of development that is broad and well-rounded, and we should not merely pay lip-service to this."

He called on Asean to work closer together in social development in preparation for the World Summit on Social Development in 1995.

Reasons for PRC To Sign Treaty Viewed

BK2407060593 Bangkok THE NATION in English 24 Jul 93 p A6

[By Kawi Chongkitthawon, in Singapore: "Asean Tries To Tame the Chinese Dragon"]

[Text] China has always been viewed with caution in Asean because of its potential military threat to Southeast Asia. Most of the Asean states remember the days when Beijing was actively supporting the communist insurgents in the region.

Now all that has come to pass with the end of the Cold War and the collapse of communist regimes in Eastern Europe.

China, not to mention its sheer size and population numbers, is emerging as an economic power-house of Asia. Fuelled by two-digit economic growth in the past years, China's financial capability to procure heavy arms has increased. Beijing's long-term policy to modernize its armed forces is now worrying Asean as never before.

Obviously, realizing its enormous collective power, Asean has embarked on a delicate path to convince China to move closer to the grouping's political culture. The regional grouping would like to see China accept the code of conduct contained in the 1976 Bali Treaty of Amity and Cooperation as soon as possible to allay fears in Southeast Asia.

In layman's words, Asean is now trying to contain, or in diplomatic jargon to accommodate, China's growing influence in regional affairs. It may seem a big ambition for Asean given Beijing's political and military might. But, Asean thinks something must be done now to ensure that the world's most populated nation will not act unilaterally.

During the preparatory meetings, Asean expressed concern over the development in the Spratly and Paracel island chains, where six countries including three Asean countries (the Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia) and Vietnam, China and Taiwan have claimed their sovereign rights, in part or in whole. The island chains which straddle major sea lanes are believed to be rich in oil and gas reserves.

At the consultative meeting yesterday with Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, Asean foreign ministers asked China to give an assurance that it would settle the South China Sea dispute through peaceful means. They said China has been seen by countries in the region as a threat.

Singapore, as the host of the Asean meeting, has been the prime mover to attract China into the treaty. The island republic believes that China must be encouraged to accede to the treaty which can regulate Beijing's assertiveness and at the same time, prevent any armed conflicts in the future that will involve China and the region.

The Treaty of Amity and Cooperation, which was drawn up by Asean in 1976, was amended in 1987 to allow other countries both from within or outside the region to accede to it.

A senior Thai delegate supported Singapore's approach saying that the only way to prevent China from using unilateral actions to protect its interests, especially in the volatile areas of the South China Sea, is to engage the Beijing government in regional processes.

In addition, Singapore thinks it is important that Asean shows its enthusiasm on ongoing Asean-China relations, especially activities related to confidence-building measures such the consultative meeting, as a way to encourage Beijing to expand its relationship within the regional grouping.

During the senior officials' meetings, the host stressed that the Asean joint communique should mention China's positive role as well as Asean's appreciation of Beijing's contribution to regional peace and stability in general. The rationale of such action is to make China be at ease without the feeling that Asean is pressuring Beijing.

However, not all Asean countries agreed with such an overture. Indonesia, which had earlier supported the notion that any country "which knocks on Asean's door" should be given consideration, came out with a new position during the closed-meeting that the treaty can be acceded to only by countries in Southeast Asia. Countries outside the region can establish links with the treaty through the signing of a protocol, but not by acceding to the treaty.

Jarkata's position is the opposite of Malaysia, which wants to see non-Asean countries accede to the treaty if they want.

Asean has identified five countries—Australia, New Zealand, Japan, the US and China—as a core group that should be persuaded to accede to the treaty without delay. Senior Asean officials think that countries like Australia and New Zealand, which have expressed the interest to accede should be given priority over those countries like Japan which were reluctant. As an example, Japan's attitude toward the treaty should be taken as an illustration. It is unlikely that Tokyo would like to accede to the treaty, which calls all signatories to abstain from the use of force and pursue peaceful means to settle disputes, in light of the US-Japan security alliance which is still intact and effective.

There is a strong feeling among Asean that members of the UN Security Council should all be invited to join the treaty. During the Asean summit in Singapore last January, Asean leaders could reach a consensus because of Indonesia's objection fearing that external powers would destroy Asean common position in security issue.

According to some Asean officials, it would be ideal to have all UN Security Council members and Japan accede to the treaty. During the Asean summit in Singapore last year, Asean leaders could not reach a consensus whether to invite the five permanent members of the UN Security Council to do so. At that time, there was still anxiety within Asean about the role of major powers within the Asean context.

In the past, the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation was used to prevent interference in the region from outside powers. In the post-Cold War era and increased interdependence, Asean has had a change of heart and has readjusted its position to welcome involvement by external powers from Asia-Pacific.

Asean is confident that its members can work together with these powers. Furthermore, the Asean treaty also contains necessary safeguards to prevent the signatories from abusing it. For example, only matters that receive the consent of the concerned parties can be brought to the High Council and only signatories that are directly involved in the disputes can sit in the council that will oversee the settling of conflicts.

'Text' of ASEAN Communique

OW2407124893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1215 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] Singapore, July 24 KYODO—The following is a full text of the communique issued by ASEAN foreign ministers.

1. The 26th ASEAN ministerial meeting was held in Singapore from July 23 to 24, 1993.

Political and Security Cooperation

2. The foreign ministers reviewed the growing political and security cooperation in Southeast Asia and the enhancing of dialogue in the Asia-Pacific region.

3. Recalling the program of action for the enhancement of ASEAN cooperation approved at the fourth ASEAN summit, the foreign ministers agreed to continue intra-ASEAN dialogue on security cooperation involving foreign ministry and defense officials which was convened as a special senior officials meeting in Manila in June 1992. In this context, they also commended the efforts of the ASEAN Institutes of Strategic and International Studies (ASEAN-ISIS) to explore and develop ideas for promoting and enhancing security cooperation among ASEAN members.

4. The foreign ministers agreed that conditions in Southeast Asia today approximate those envisaged in the declaration on the Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality (ZOPFAN). They endorsed the "Program of Action for ZOPFAN" aimed at maintaining and strengthening these conditions in the new geo-political environment.

5. The foreign ministers welcomed the United Nations resolution on the treaty of amity and cooperation in Southeast Asia which was adopted by consensus at the

47th UN General Assembly in 1992, the treaty is significant in that it establishes a code of conduct and provides a mechanism for peaceful resolution of disputes in the region. They commended the principles in the treaty as a basis for preventive diplomacy in the region. The treaty also contributes to community-building in the Southeast Asian region.

6. The foreign ministers also noted the significant progress made in resolving the outstanding issues relating to the draft treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ). They directed the senior offficials working group on ZOPFAN and SEANWFZ to continue its work.

7. ASEAN has intensified external dialogues in political and security matters by using the ASEAN post-ministerial conferences (PMC) process. ASEAN has also built cooperative and consultative ties with states in the Asia-Pacific region. While there are uncertainties and challenges, the present conditions offer opportunities for countries in the region to strengthen and promote political and security cooperation that would be conducive for continued economic growth and development. It is important for ASEAN to work with its dialogue partners and other regional states to evolve a more predictable and constructive pattern of political and security relationships in the Asia-Pacific. This would foster the habit of open dialogue, and encourage patterns of behavior that reduce the risks to regional security.

8. The foreign ministers welcomed the successful outcome of the first meeting of senior officials of the ASEAN PMC which was held in Singapore from May 20 to 21, 1993. They noted a convergence of views among the participants on the need to find ways to promote consultations on regional political and security issues. They endorsed the proposal of the senior officials to invite China, Laos, Papua New Guinea, Russia and Vietnam to meet ASEAN and its dialogue partners at the "ASEAN Regional Forum" in Bangkok next year.

9. The foreign ministers reaffirmed ASEAN's commitment to the centrality of the United Nations' role in the maintenance of international peace and security. They viewed the secretary general's "An Agenda for Peace" proposals as an innovative approach toward strengthening the role of the United Nations in preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, peacekeeping and peacebuilding. They welcomed the workshop series initiated by Thailand on ASEAN-UN cooperation for peace and preventive diplomacy.

International and Regional Situation [subhead]

10. The foreign ministers had a wide-ranging exchange of views on current international and regional developments. They agreed that countries such as the United States, China, Japan and Russia can contribute to regional security through the maintenance of stable relationships and the adoption of positive policies toward the region.

11. The foreign ministers expressed the preparedness of the ASEAN countries to work together with the international community, multilateral institutions and the major powers to contribute to the reconstruction of Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam.

12. The foreign ministers called for a faster pace of resettlement of Indochinese refugees and asylum-seekers. They also called for the expeditious repatriations of those Vietnamese "screened-out" as non-refugees. In this context, they welcomed Vietnam's commitment to the "orderly repatriation program" for Vietnamese boat people and appealed to the international community to finance the program for Vietnamese boat people. They called on the resettlement countries to facilitate an early resolution of the problem.

13. The foreign ministers reiterated the invitation to all parties directly concerned to subscribe to the principles of the ASEAN declaration on the South China Sea. They noted that the workshop series on managing potential conflicts in the South China Sea initiated by Indonesia, and the working group meetings held within the framework of the workshop, had promoted understanding among the countries concerned of the issues involved and provided ideas for future cooperation.

14. The foreign ministers expressed their serious concern over the desperate situation in the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, an independent and sovereign member state of the United Nations. They deplored the blatant aggression against Bosnia-Herzegovina by Serbian forces supported by the Yugoslav National Army and compounded by the recent attacks by Croat extremist elements. They called on the UN Security Council to act decisively to halt the Serbian aggression, reverse it through withdrawals from all territories occupied by the use of force, "ethnic cleansing" or by any other means, and fully restore the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Bosnia-Herzegovina. The Government of Bosnia-Herzegovina should also be exempted from the application of UNSC Resolution 713 (1991) imposing an arms embargo against the former Yugoslavia.

15. The foreign ministers welcomed Indonesia's assumption of the chairmanship of the Non-Aligned Movement [NAM] since the 10th summit meeting of the nonaligned countries held in Jakarta in September 1992. They also noted with appreciation the recent meeting held between Indonesia, as chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, and the G-7 through Japan as its chairman, on which occasion the NAM chairman conveyed the movement's aspirations, new orientations and approaches, and specifically invited the developed countries of the north to enter into a constructive dialogue with countries of the south on the basis of mutuality of interests and of benefits and equitably shared responsibility. They were encouraged by the response of the G-7 to the NAM's invitation to a dialogue and hoped that it would signal and lead to a mutually beneficial pattern of cooperation

between the developed and the developing countries in this era of growing interdependence and globalization in the world economy.

Human Rights

16. The foreign ministers welcomed the international consensus achieved during the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna, June 14-25, 1993, and reaffirmed ASEAN's commitment to and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as set out in the Vienna declaration of June 25, 1993. They stressed that human rights are interrelated and indivisible comprising civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. These rights are of equal importance. They should be addressed in a balanced and integrated manner and protected and promoted with due regard for specific cultural, social, economic and political circumstances. They emphasized that the promotion and protection of human rights should not be politicized.

17. The foreign ministers agreed that ASEAN should coordinate a common approach on human rights and actively participate and contribute to the application, promotion and protection of human rights. They noted that the UN Charter had placed the question of universal observance and promotion of human rights within the context of international cooperation. They stressed that development is an inalienable right and that the use of human rights as a conditionality for economic cooperation and development assistance is detrimental to international cooperation and could undermine an international consensus on human rights. They emphasized that the protection and promotion of human rights in the international community should take cognizance of the principles of respect for national sovereignty, territorial integrity and noninterference in the internal affairs of states. They were convinced that freedom, progress and national stability are promoted by a balance between the rights of the individual and those of the community, through which many individual rights are realized, as provided for in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

18. The foreign ministers reviewed with satisfaction the considerable and continuing progress of ASEAN in freeing its peoples from fear and want, enabling them to live in dignity. They stressed that the violations of basic human rights must be redressed and should not be tolerated under any pretext. They further stressed the importance of strengthening international cooperation on all aspects of human rights and that all governments should uphold humane standards and respect human dignity. In this regard and in support of the Vienna declaration and program of action of June 25, 1993, they agreed that ASEAN should also consider the establishment of an appropriate regional mechanism on human rights.

International Economic Issues

19. The foreign ministers stressed the importance of trade and investment liberalization and increased world trade to secure sustained growth in the world economy.

20. In reviewing the development of world trade, the foreign ministers expressed deep concern over the slow pace toward achieving agreement under the Uruguay Round. An early and successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round is necessary to revitalize world trade. The foreign ministers noted the renewed determination and commitment of the G-7 at their recent meeting in Tokyo to resolve the remaining difficult issues and to conclude the Uruguay Round. However, greater efforts have to be made to multilateralize the process of negotiations. This requires strong political commitment by all parties, particularly the major players, in resolving their differences in order to conclude the Uruguay Round with a balanced package by the end of 1993.

21. On international economic trends, the foreign ministers noted a global shift toward regionalism in recent years. They stressed the need for regional groupings such as the European Community, North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) to remain open while seeking to expand intra-regional trade. Regional trade groupings would complement GATT and contribute toward a faster and significant conclusion of the Uruguay Round.

22. The foreign ministers endorsed the need to protect and preserve the environment while sustaining long-term economic growth. Developed nations and multilateral financial institutions need to implement the commitments made at the UN Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992 by granting new and additional financial resources and transferring environmentally sound technologies to the developing countries. Environmental issues should not become a cover for protectionism that impedes legitimate trade.

23. The foreign ministers emphasized that the right to development and economic well-being is a fundamental and inalienable right of all peoples. The emerging global economic order has to provide for more equal economic opportunities for all nations. They called upon industrialized nations and multilateral financial institutions to intensify their efforts in promoting foreign direct investments in developing countries, and to establish a genuinely open multilateral trading environment. They underscored the importance of peace and stability as a precondition for the successful implementation of policies for economic development and the eradication of poverty.

ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA)

24. The foreign ministers welcomed the launching of the Common Effective Preferential Tariff (CEPT) scheme for AFTA on January 1, 1993. Operational details of the CEPT scheme had been finalized, in particular, lists of

products with schedules of tariff reduction have been exchanged among all member countries and the process of tariff reduction among member countries has begun. Various other initiatives such as tariff reforms have also been undertaken by ASEAN countries to complement and supplement trade liberalization toward attainment of the objectives of AFTA.

25. The foreign ministers expressed common desire to see the smooth and swift implementation of AFTA to further promote economic cooperation within ASEAN and to facilitate investments in ASEAN by third countries. They reaffirmed the importance of implementing the CEPT scheme within the time-frame agreed at the fourth ASEAN summit. The realization of AFTA would greatly strengthen ASEAN's cohesiveness, dynamism and vitality as a regional organization. AFTA, as a GATT-consistent and outward-looking arrangement, would also contribute to the strengthening of the multilateral trading system.

26. The foreign ministers expressed satisfaction at the progress of ASEAN cooperation in science and technology, environment, culture and information, social development, drugs and narcotics control and civil service matters. Cooperation in these areas has become more sophisticated and taken a truly ASEAN character. Since the founding of ASEAN, functional cooperation has provided a firm foundation and a rallying point for common action toward strengthening ASEAN solidarity and cooperation. Following the decisions of the fourth ASEAN summit, ASEAN-developed technologies are being commercialized and transferred, strategies for the implementation of Agenda 21 for environmentally sound and sustainable development are being formulated, the global thrusts and priorities in culture and information are being developed, increased participation of women in development is being promoted, and, the ASEAN task force on AIDS has been established and held its first meeting in Jakarta in March 1993.

Restructuring of the ASEAN Secretariat

27. The foreign ministers welcomed the completion of the process of restructuring of the ASEAN Secretariat and expressed confidence in the Secretariat's ability to carry out its expanded mandate as defined by the fourth ASEAN summit. The 26th ASEAN Standing Committee has taken steps to provide the necessary resources for the Secretariat to perform its functions effectively. With the establishment of the ASEAN Cooperation Unit within the Secretariat, a new system for formulating and prioritizing projects with a truly ASEAN focus could now be implemented. The ASEAN Secretariat has developed the project appraisal guidelines and standard formats to operationalize a more rational and holistic approach to the review of ASEAN projects. The Secretariat is now better equipped to execute many of the projects on its own.

Cooperation With Dialogue Partners and Other Organizations

28. ASEAN's relations with its dialogue partners remain relevant and important and has moved toward a more equitable relationship for mutual benefit. The foreign ministers welcomed the establishment of a sectoral dialogue with India and the efforts to intensify the consultative relationship with the People's Republic of China. The increasing interest of other countries and regional organizations to establish linkages with ASEAN was also noted. The foreign ministers affirmed that in developing such linkages, due account should be taken of ASEAN's capacity and ability to undertake such tasks in order that the relationships are meaningful for both sides. They expressed their appreciation for all the assistance rendered by the dialogue partners, particularly in the implementation of various development projects. In this connection, the restructuring of the ASEAN fund would contribute to greater self-reliance and a more mature and balanced relationship with the dialogue partners.

East Asia Economic Caucus (EAEC)

29. Pursuant to the decision of the fourth ASEAN summit, the foreign ministers reaffirmed their belief that consultations on issues of common concern among east Asian economies will contribute to expanding cooperation among the region's economies and the promotion of an open and free global system.

30. The foreign ministers considered the report of the joint consultative meeting held in Jakarta from July 9 to 10, 1993, pertaining to "an appropriate modality to complete the elaboration of the EAEC concept." In this context, the foreign ministers consider that the ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting (AEM) would be the appropriate body to provide support and direction for the EAEC, taking into account that the prospective members of EAEC are also members of APEC. Pursuant to this, the foreign ministers agreed that the EAEC is a caucus within APEC.

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

31. The foreign ministers noted the continued evolution of APEC as a consultative framework for sustaining the growth and dynamism of the Asia-Pacific region. They reiterated that ASEAN would continue to play a constructive role in the evolution of the APEC process.

ROK Minister To Ask PRC for Help

SK2407003493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0026 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] Singapore, July 24 (YONHAP)—South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu, in Singapore to attend the post-ministerial conference of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), meets his Russian and Chinese counterparts on Monday.

Han will be explaining the results of the just concluded North Korea-U.S. nuclear talks. With Chinese Foreign

Minister Qian Qichen, he will ask for Beijing's persuasion of Pyongyang to allow inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Han is expected to notify Qian of South Korea's coming adjustment in relations with Taiwan.

PRC: U.S. Missile Reports Fabricated

BK2407082893 Hong Kong AFP in English 0747 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] SINGAPORE, July 25 (AFP)—Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen on Saturday denied U.S. charges that Beijing had shipped components for missiles to Pakistan.

The claims were "without foundation" and "simply fabricated," said Qian, who will hold talks with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher here Sunday.

Qian, responding to a question at a luncheon hosted by the Foreign Correspondents Club of Singapore, said he the U.S. allegation would not cloud his talks with Christopher. "I hope through this meeting our two sides will give impetus to improvement in relations," he said.

Qian is believed to be the most senior Chinese official to respond to the U.S. charge that Beijing had secretly shipped components for M-11 missiles to Pakistan.

Washington has said it has compelling evidence to back its claim. The missiles with a range of about 450 kilometres (300 miles) are believed capable of carrying nuclear weapons.

Christopher is due in late Saturday for talks with foreign ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), who are holding their annual meeting here.

Qian said he hoped his talks with Christopher would be satisfactory and constructive despite the U.S. allegations.

U.S. 's Christopher Meets Qian Qichen

BK2507123893 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1100 GMT 25 Jul 93

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, now in Singapore, has met Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen. It was the highest level of contact between China and the Clinton administation. Speaking to reporters before the meeting, both men said it was [words indistinct] to discuss [words indistinct] on ways to bridge the gap. Mr. Christopher said by developing a personal official relationship, it would be easy to deal with problems in the region.

[Hong Kong AFP in English at 1225 GMT on 25 July in a similar item adds: "A meeting Sunday between U.S. Secretary of State and Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen was unable to settle the question of reported missile sales by Beijing to Islamabad, a senior U.S. official said.

["Christopher and Qian met for 90 minutes and discussed for 'a good part of the meeting' allegations by Washington that Beijing had sold M-11 missiles to Islamabad, the official, who require anonymity, said."]

Japan

Russia's Position on Kuril Dispute Noted

OW2407160693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1540 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] Moscow, July 24 KYODO—Russia is free from the former Soviet Union's 1956 promise to return two of the four disputed islands to Japan upon a conclusion of a peace treaty, Russian government sources said Saturday [24 July]. The 1956 Japan-Soviet joint declaration, which included the promise, no longer binds Moscow's position in future territorial talks with Japan, the sources said.

In the document, signed by Japan's then Prime Minister Ichiro Hatoyama and Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev, Moscow pledged to return Shikotan Island and the Habomai group of islets to Japan after the two countries sign a peace pact.

One Russian Foreign Ministry source said the joint declaration contains unclear points, noting that a long time has passed after its signing. The source, however, did not specify which points were unclear. The official said it would be better for both sides to make a restart on territorial negotiations separately from the 1956 document.

Tokyo and Moscow have [not] yet signed a peace treaty chiefly because of differences over the territorial dispute. The Soviet Union seized Shikotan and the Habomais along with two larger islands of Kunashiri and Etorofu at the end of World War II. Japan has long called for the return of the islands which are called "Northern Territories."

Another ministry official said if Japan presses ahead with confirmation of the 1956 statement, it may influence a planned visit by President Boris Yeltsin to Tokyo. Yeltsin twice postponed an official visit to Japan, first last September and then in May, blaming Tokyo's tough territorial claim.

During a meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa in Tokyo earlier this month, Yeltsin agreed in principle to pay an official visit to Tokyo in mid-October, Japanese officials said. Yeltsin came to Tokyo in early July for talks with leaders of the Group of Seven (G-7) major powers who assembled for an annual summit in the Japanese capital.

Takeshita Backs Away From Diet Link With LDP

OW2307152093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1458 GMT 23 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 23, KYODO—Former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, a key figure in the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin money-and-mob scandal, said Friday [23 July] he would refrain from joining the parliamentary group led by the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP). Takeshita was quoted by LDP sources as telling Party Secretary General Seiroku Kajiyama by phone, "I would like to abstain from participating in the (LDP-led) parliamentary group for the time being, as not much time has elapsed since the election."

Takeshita was enticed back into the LDP fold on Wednesday after last Sunday's election for the House of Representatives in a bid by the party to increase its parliamentary strength to counterbalance the power of opposition parties. The LDP won 223 seats in the election, far short of a majority of 256 in the 511-seat lower house. But he later asked the LDP leadership to nullify their decision to accept him back into the party's parliamentary fold, they said.

The LDP leadership's decision to accept him back provoked a barrage of criticism from young LDP legislators on Thursday, and also from the leader of the Japan New Party, Morihiro Hosokawa, a new conservative group which won 35 seats in the poll.

Takeshita, 69, ran as an independent in the election after the LDP denied him a party campaign ticket.

His reputation has been tarnished by reports that he sought the intervention of a gang boss in 1987 to stave off an ultrarightist group's harassment campaign against him when he was vying for the LDP presidency.

Takeshita was elected to the House of Representatives from the five-seat Shimane constituency for the 13th time since 1958.

Shinseito To Support JNP's Hosokawa in Premiership Bid

OW2407141793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1358 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 24 KYODO—Shinseito (Japan Renewal Party) is ready to back Morihiro Hosokawa, head of the Japan New Party (JNP), as the joint candidate for a seven-party opposition front, political sources said Saturday [24 July]. Shinseito's behind-the-scenes leader Ichiro Ozawa has already conveyed the group's intention to Hosokawa, the sources said.

Hosokawa's response was not immediately known. If Hosokawa declines to enter the race, Shinseito's figurehead Tsutomu Hata will be the joint candidate of seven anti-Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and anticommunist groups, the sources said.

Shinseito, a breakaway from the dominant LDP, has joined forces with the Social Democratic Party (SDP), Komeito, the Democratic Socialist Party and the United Social Democratic Party (USDP) in an effort to oust the LDP from power.

The JNP and another LDP breakaway Sakigake (Harbinger), which are considered to be holding the swing vote in a Diet prime ministerial election, Friday unveiled a few conditions to join the five-party coalition effort. The conditions, which the five others accepted in principle, included legislation to revise the electoral system, impose stricter controls on political funding and a future ban on political donations from business corporations.

Shinseito emerged as the third largest party in the July 18 general election for the House of Representatives after it won 55 seats. The LDP took 223 and the Social Democratic Party (SDP) 70. The LDP later recruited four independents to boost its strength to 227, but the figure is well short of a simple majority of 256 in the 511-seat lower chamber. The JNP won 35 seats in the election and later boosted its strength to 36 when an independent joined its ranks.

The seven noncommunist opposition parties plan to hold a secretaries general-level meeting early next week to select their joint candidate, political sources said. The sources said Shinseito gives top priority to forming a coalition government to put an end to the LDP's 38-year monopoly of power.

The SDP, Komeito and the DSP will take a flexible approach if Shinseito decides to support Hosokawa for the premiership, the sources said.

Constitutional rules require the Diet to convene a special session within 30 days after a lower house general election and elect a prime minister immediately. LDP sources say the special session is likely to be convened around August 2.

Both houses of the Diet will elect the prime minister at the special session. If no one can get a majority of votes, the two top vote getters will face a runoff election. The lower house nominee will become prime minister if the two chambers do not choose the same one.

On Thursday, Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa announced his resignation as LDP president, a job which under an LDP-controlled House of Representatives automatically led to the prime minister's office. But because the LDP failed to secure a lower house majority in last Sunday's general election, the LDP presidency no longer automatically carries the premier's position. The LDP is scheduled to hold an election Friday by the party's Diet members and representatives from prefectural chapters to pick successor to Miyazawa as party president.

Opposition Parties To Hold Summit Meeting for Coalition

OW2407215093 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1001 GMT 24 Jul 93

[From the "NHK News 7" program]

[Text] Five political parties, which intend to form a coalition government to replace the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] led administration, held a working-level meeting today. Represented at the meeting were: The Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ], Shinseito [Japan Renewal Party], Komeito [Clean Government Party], Democratic Socialist Party, and United Social Democratic Party. The meeting was held following the announcement by the Japan New Party [JNP] and Sakigake [Harbinger Party] on their policy of establishing a political reform minded government. At the meeting, the five parties decided to hold a summit meeting of the seven opposition parties, including the JNP and Sakigake, to agree on the formation of a coalition government. The summit is to take place on 28 July at the earliest.

At the 23 July meeting, the JNP and Sakigake announced their conditions for aligning with the five parties in the upcoming premiership election. The conditions include legislation to create an electoral system combining small constituencies, and proportional representation to achieve political reform within the year. The five parties agreed that they would accept these conditions. They then agreed to request that the JNP and Sakigake participate in a secretaries-general meeting, scheduled for early next week, to coordinate policy differences. They will then hold a summit meeting among the seven parties on 28 or 29 July to reach an agreement on forming a coalition government. After their leaders have reached an accord at the summit meeting on who they should designate as prime minister, the seven parties will discuss the matter.

The JNP and Sakigake said that if these five parties, including the SDPJ, decide to accept their policies, then they will participate in the secretaries-general and summit meetings. However, there is an opinion within the JNP and Sakigake that they should postpone making a decision to align with other parties in forming a coalition government until just before the opening of a special Diet session. By doing this, they will be able to call reform-minded LDP members to join in efforts to establish a political reform-minded government. Depending on how the five parties cope with their policies, the two parties will decide whether or not to attend the summit meeting.

Kato Faction May Leave LDP, Supports Kaifu

OW2507132993 Tokyo KYODO in English 1320 GMT 25 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 25 KYODO—Members of the smallest of the Liberal Democratic Party's six factions may leave the party pending the development over the July 30 LDP presidential election, faction sources said Sunday [25 July].

Mutsuki Kato, leader of the 10-member faction, and a few senior faction members discussed the matter at a meeting Sunday, the sources said. During the meeting, the faction reconfirmed its call for former Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu to run in the presidential election to pick a successor to Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, who announced his resignation as LDP president last Thursday.

Kato, who formed his own group in 1991 after seceding from what is now the LDP's largest faction led by Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, is known for his close ties with Ichiro Ozawa, who founded the breakaway Shinseito (Japan Renewal Party) with Tsutomu Hata last month. Hata's group left the LDP on June 22 after voting for a no-confidence motion June 18 against the Miyazawa cabinet which led to dissolution of the House of Representatives.

In the subsequent general election July 18, the LDP won 223 seats to fall short of a majority in the 511-seat lower house. Shinseito increased its strength to 55 seats from its preelection 36.

LDP Ready To Accept JNP-Sakigake Reform Plan

OW2607080093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0747 GMT 26 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 26 KYODO—The Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) is ready to accept a political reform plan pushed by two opposition parties as their condition for forming a coalition, party sources said Monday [26 July]. The LDP has been the dominant political force in Japan for nearly four decades and must form a coalition to stay in power following its poor showing in the July 18 general election.

The sources said the party's political reform promotion headquarters decided at a morning meeting to recommend that the LDP officially approve the electoral reform plan put forward by the Japan New Party (JNP) and Sakigake (Harbinger).

The LDP leadership was to discuss the recommendation Monday afternoon ahead of a meeting by the party's decision-making Executive Council, the sources said. It will be followed, perhaps as early as Tuesday, by a general meeting of all LDP legislators from both houses of parliament with the aim of approving the reform plan, the sources said.

The JNP and Sakigake have forged a 49-member alliance in the powerful House of Representatives and they are expected to play a pivotal role in determining a successor to Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa in a parliamentary poll tentatively scheduled for early August.

The LDP's decision to accept the JNP-Sakigake political reform proposal came as five other opposition parties, including the main opposition Social Democratic Party (SDP) and Shinseito (Japan Renewal Party), are moving to endorse the proposal to win over the two new conservative parties. The five-party coalition with a combined strength of 195 needs the JNP-Sakigake alliance's 49 votes to beat an LDP candidate for prime minister in a runoff. If past patterns are followed, the politicians will cast ballots for their party leaders in an initial parliamentary poll for the premiership.

As former Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe renewed his determination to run for the LDP presidency and premiership, other LDP sources said young turks within the scandal-tainted LDP are urging former Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto to run. Watanabe turns 70 Wednesday and Hashimoto 56 Thursday.

But other frustrated members in the LDP are rallying behind Seiichi Ota, leader of a group of about 20 reform-minded LDP legislators, well-placed sources said. Ota, 47, was one of outspoken LDP lawmakers who denounced the party leadership for its refusal to implement political reform at last Thursday's general membership meeting in which Miyazawa announced his resignation as party president. At the stormy general meeting, he and other reformists criticized the party's backroom selection of its president, forcing LDP Secretary General Seiroku Kajiyama to abandon the party's hitherto common practice and instead convene a general membership meeting Friday to choose the next party president and thus the party's candidate for prime minister.

LDP To Accept Reform Plan; SDPJ Chief May Quit

OW2607091393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0842 GMT 26 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 26 KYODO—In a major policy shift, the dominant Liberal Democratic Party is set to accept a political reform plan pushed by two opposition parties so that it can remain in power, LDP sources said Monday [26 July]. By reluctantly endorsing the reform plan, the sources said the LDP leadership is betting that the Japan New Party (JNP) and Sakigake (Harbinger), founded by former LDP lawmakers, will support an LDP candidate for prime minister in parliamentary balloting that is tentatively scheduled for early August.

The LDP on Monday morning convened a meeting of executives of its political reform promotion headquarters and accepted the JNP-Sakigake plan for political reform, LDP sources said.

Meanwhile, Sadao Yamahana, chairman of the No. 1 opposition Social Democratic Party (SDP), hinted that he will quit the top party post after the parliamentary vote for which the SDP and four other opposition parties are trying to field a compromise candidate with the help of the JNP and Sakigake.

"Past SDP chairmen have resigned to take the blame for electoral setbacks," Yamahana said at a meeting of SDP legislators at a Tokyo hotel. The SDP saw its strength in the powerful House of Representatives nearly halved to 70 in the July 18 general election.

Yamahana urged SDP members to help end the LDP's 38-year reign over Japanese politics by supporting the JNP-Sakigake alliance's political reform plan. The plan features a new electoral system under which a combination of single-seat constituencies and proportional representation would replace the current multiseat constituencies for the 511-seat House of Representatives.

Meanwhile, Shinseito (Japan Renewal Party), a breakaway group from the LDP, also decided at a top-level meeting to accept the electoral reform plan, Shinseito members said. The JNP and Sakigake, also an LDP breakaway, proposed these and other measures in the hope of ridding Japanese politics of recurring money scandals.

The LDP must govern in coalition to remain in power. The five would-be coalition parties are Shinseito, the Social Democratic Party (SDP), Komeito, the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) and the United Democratic Socialist Party (UDSP). Jockeying for a political reform-minded government to displace Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's cabinet began in earnest after the general election in which the LDP failed to win a lower house majority and the new conservative parties made big gains, mainly at the expense of the SDP.

But other sources expressed doubt that the LDP, which has ruled the country without interruption since 1955, could really adopt the reform panel's endorsement as the party's official decision. Komeito chairman Koshiro Ishida told a party meeting that JNP leader Morihiro Hosokawa and Shinseito chief Tsutomu Hata have been mentioned as potential candidates to head a projected seven-party coalition. In a meeting with reporters, Hosokawa signaled his willingness to attend a meeting of leaders of the five non-LDP parties.

The five-party coalition with a combined strength of 195 lower house seats needs the support of the 49-member JNP-Sakigake alliance to beat in a runoff a candidate for prime minister to be fielded by the LDP, which has 227 members in the Diet's most powerful chamber. If past patterns are followed, the politicians will cast ballots for their party leaders in an initial parliamentary poll for the premiership.

While former Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe renewed his determination to run for the LDP presidency and premiership, other LDP sources said young turks within the scandal-tainted LDP are urging former Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto to run. Watanabe turns 70 Wednesday and Hashimoto 56 Thursday.

But other frustrated members in the LDP are rallying behind Seiichi Ota, leader of a group of about 20 reform-minded LDP legislators, well-placed sources said. Ota, 47, was one of outspoken LDP lawmakers who denounced the party leadership for its refusal to implement political reform at last Thursday's general meeting of LDP Diet members in which Miyazawa announced his resignation as party president.

At the stormy general meeting, Ota and other reformists criticized the party's backroom selection of its president, forcing LDP Secretary General Seiroku Kajiyama to abandon the party's hitherto common practice. The LDP leadership later agreed to convene another general meeting of LDP Diet members Friday to choose the next party president and thus the party's candidate for prime minister.

As momentum for a non-LDP coalition grew, chief government spokesman Yohei Kono expressed apprehension about such a coalition which he said has failed to iron out differences over foreign and economic policies.

"Although no one can doubt the importance for an urgent accord on political reform, there are many other pressing issues that a government must tackle immediately," he told a news conference.

Ministry Spokesman Comments on Israel-Lebanon Conflict

OW2607111893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1109 GMT 26 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 26 KYODO—Japan is strongly concerned the conflict between Israel and guerrillas in Lebanon could impede the Middle East peace process, the Foreign Ministry said Monday [26 July]. The ministry issued a statement urging all parties exert self-restraint so the conflict does not escalate further.

Israel attacked Palestinian and Shiite Muslim guerrilla bases in Lebanon for a second day Monday with warplanes, helicopter gunships and artillery fire, while the guerrillas responded with barrages of rockets on Israeli positions in South Lebanon and settlements in northern Israel. U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher is scheduled to arrive in the region Saturday in an attempt to revive the stalled Middle East peace talks.

Unsuccessful LDP Candidate Arrested for Vote Buying

OW2407152893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1519 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] Nagoya, July 24 KYODO—Police Saturday arrested an unsuccessful conservative candidate in the July 18 general election on suspicion of vote buying. Under arrest was Takamitsu Niwa, 51, who ran as a candidate of the Liberal Democratic Party in Aichi Prefecture's No. 2 electoral district. Niwa, a son of former Labor Minister Hyosuke Niwa, allegedly gave about 6 million yen in cash in late June to a senior member of his support organization for the man's efforts to collect votes for Niwa, police said.

Niwa garnered 101,800 votes in the House of Representatives election but was the runner-up in the four-seat constituency.

North Korea

ROK Accused of Firing Twice at DMZ Post

23 Jul Incident Reported

SK2307163993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1541 GMT 23 Jul 93

["Military Provocation of South Korean Puppets"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, July 23 (KCNA)—The South Korean puppets committed a grave military provocation today, firing some 10 bullets with a large-calibre machine-gun toward a post of our side in the Demilitarized Zone [DMZ] of the Military Demarcation Line [MDL] in the central sector of the front.

Personal safety of our civil policemen on a normal duty was threatened by this firing.

The reckless military provocation of the South Korean puppets is a premeditated move to incite North-South confrontation and aggravate the situation artificially.

Our people and People's Army are keenly watching with high vigilance the continued military provocation of the South Korean puppets in the sea and the Demilitarized Zone of the MDL which artificially exasperates the situation.

25 Jul Incident Reported

SK2507225593 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2120 GMT 25 Jun 93 txt

[Text] The South Korean puppets yesterday committed a grave military provocation by firing a large-caliber machine gun toward a post of our side's civil police in the Demilitarized Zone [DMZ].

Around 1345 [0445 GMT] yesterday, the armed hooligans of the South Korean puppet dragged a 12.7-mm large-caliber machine gun into the area within the DMZ southeast of [Kijon-ri], Changpung county, in the west frontline and intensively fired [chipchungsakyok] it at the post of our side's civil police on the opposite side of their posts.

Because of their shootings, households [kimul] of our side's post were destroyed and, also, the personal safety of the soldiers of our civil police on a normal duty were gravely threatened.

The South Korean puppets committed a gun firing act this time again following their large-caliber machine-gun fire at our side's post in the area within the DMZ in the central frontline on 23 July. This is their premeditated military provocation intended to provoke the North-South confrontation by artificially aggravating tensions in the areas within the DMZ.

The military provocations frequently committed by the South Korean puppets in the areas within the DMZ in which armed forces of the two sides are acutely deployed against each other have not been escalated into an armed conflict [mujangchungdol]. This is totally due to the high degree of patience and self-control [chajeryok] of our soldiers.

The South Korean puppets have recently committed such military provocations in succession at a time when we wait for the day to mark the 40th anniversary of victory in the Fatherland Liberation War, a second liberation day, our side therefore cannot but regard it as more serious.

The South Korean puppets must give a careful consideration [simsasukko] to the grave consequence that may arise from their military provocation and must not act recklessly. Despite our repeated warnings, if they continue military provocation by aggravating tensions on the Korean peninsula, our people and our People's Army will punish them more severely.

Station Commentary Denounces ROK

SK2407133193 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Commentary by station commentator Chong Pong-kil: "Act That Is Running Toward War"]

[Text] The South Korean ruling bunch is intent on conducting maneuvers for a new war provocation to invade the North.

On 23 July the South Korean puppets committed a grave military provocation by firing about 10 bullets from a large-caliber machine gun toward a post on our side of the Military Demarcation Line in the DMZ in the central sector of the front.

At around 1440 [0540 GMT] on 23 July the armed scoundrels of the South Korean puppet army secretly dragged a large-caliber 12.7mm machine gun into the DMZ south of Mt. Osong in the central frontline and fired at the outpost belonging to our side's civil police on the opposite side.

Because of this reckless firing by the armed scoundrels of the puppet army, members of our civil police who were conducting routine missions felt that their safety was gravely threatened.

From 20 to 22 July the puppet army's [word indistinct] unit conducted a provocative war exercise called the 1993 Ground Cooperative Exercise, opposing the northern half of the republic. This war exercise was conducted under the cloak of instilling so-called security awareness and assuming an irregular warfare [pijonggyujon] readiness. Not only were all the puppet forces of this unit mobilized; police in this region and local reserve forces were mobilized for this exercise as well. The exercise was held for two nights and three days, from morning until night, under conditions of real warfare.

This kind of criminal maneuver by the South Korean ruling bunch shows that the current rulers professing civilian politics are not moving toward the nation's unity and reunification but are running toward confrontation and war. This clearly reveals their warlike character.

As everyone knows, the whole nation of the North, the South, and overseas hopes to ease tensions on the Korean peninsula and achieve peaceful reunification as soon as possible.

Trying to make the 1990's a decade for the fatherland's reunification is the consistent desire and will of the whole nation. Reflecting on the nation's desire and will, the North and South have already adopted and effectuated an agreement including nonaggression. We are persistently making efforts to achieve solid peace on the Korean peninsula and peaceful reunification.

We put forth and are struggling to enact the 10-point program of great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country. We have held talks with the United States to resolve the nuclear issue and other pending issues.

In spite of our consistent and sincere efforts for durable peace and peaceful reunification on the Korean peninsula, the South Korean ruling quarters are conducting frantic war exercises while talking about strategies of ground infiltration and low-altitude infiltration. They committed the grave military provocation of firing a large-caliber machine gun at our side's outpost. This is a vicious challenge to us, a brazen delusion of reality, and a premeditated provocation attempting to incite North-South confrontation and artificially aggravate the situation.

A threat of northward invasion, not a threat of southward invasion, exists on the Korean peninsula. In reality, the South Korean ruling quarters are running wild preparing for a war of northward invasion spurred by their ambition of reunification by prevailing over communism.

Some days ago, the so-called speaker of the South Korean National Assembly, at a ceremony to mark the anniversary of Constitution Day, openly revealed the ambition of achieving reunification by prevailing over communism through absorption. The puppet Defense Ministry, under the pretext of improving the puppet Army's structure, announced a plan to reinforce the puppet's Air Force and Navy. The provocative 1993 Ground Cooperative Exercise and the military provocation are part of their preparations for war.

The criminal maneuvers—conducting war exercises by mobilizing the puppet army, police, and local reserve forces and committing military provocations to find a pretext to bring about war—are very dangerous. This shows that the current ruler's absurd remark that peace can be maintained only through strength is being put into practice.

While paying lip service to the civilian-controlled politics, the South Korean ruling quarters are in fact running wild conducting war exercises against fellow countrymen. This reveals again that, like the preceding dictators, they are heinous antireunification factions and warmongers' groups who will not give up their ambition of achieving reunification by prevailing over communism.

History shows that those moving toward the road to war can never meet a good end. The South Korean authorities should know that the road to adventurous confrontation and war is a road that leads to the end of the civilian-controlled regime.

The South Korean authorities should give up the foolish act of plunging into a fire. They should now come to the road of peace and reunification, which the entire nation wants. This will be good for their future.

Reaction to South Foreign Minister's Remarks

SK2407044693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0436 GMT 24 Jul 93

["Imprudent Jargon"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, July 24 (KCNA)—The South Korean "Foreign Minister" at an "academic symposium" Thursday [22 July] raised a hue and cry over the "nuclear problem" of the North and claimed that if the North did not take specific action within one or two months as regards inspection, "sanctions" by the U.N. Security Council would follow "regardless of what the DPRK and the United States may have agreed upon."

NODONG SINMUN today brands his outcry as a desperate wriggle to throw a wet blanket over the success of the DPRK-USA talks and put a block on its progress.

The news analyst says:

Truth to tell, the nuclear problem on the Korean peninsula was caused by the U.S. deployment of nuclear weapons in South Korea and its constant nuclear threat to the North. That is why at the DPRK-USA talks, the USA reaffirmed its commitment to the principles of assurances against the use and threat of forces, including nuclear weapons, and the two sides discussed matters of practically removing nuclear threat.

It is self-evident that the nuclear problem on the Korean peninsula must be settled through talks between the DPRK and the USA.

The South Korean authorities must refrain from making an imprudent interference, forgetful of their position, at a time when DPRK-USA talks for a fundamental solution of the nuclear problem on the Korean peninsula are underway.

Delegation Returns Home After Geneva Talks

SK2407224593 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1509 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] Our country's delegation led by Kang Sok-chu, first vice foreign minister, returned home by plane on 24 July after participating in talks between the DPRK and the U.S.A. in Geneva.

Envoy to Russia Views Talks

SK2407060093 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0507 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] Son Song-pil, our country's ambassador to Russia, held a news conference with reporters from ITAR-TASS and other news services in Moscow on 21 July in connection with the second round of DPRK-U.S. talks in Geneva.

The ambassador answered questions posed by reporters on the result of the Geneva DPRK-U.S. talks:

The second round of DPRK-U.S. talks were progressive [chonjinjok] and productive [saengsanjok]. In the talks, the DPRK and the United States reconfirmed the principles of the joint statement, which was agreed upon at the first round of DPRK-U.S. talks on 11 June. The United States reaffirmed that it will neither use armed forces, including nuclear weapons, nor threaten us with these arms.

The two sides discussed our side's proposal of replacing the DPRK's graphite-moderated reactors and relevant nuclear facilities with light water reactors as a part of the process to generally resolve the nuclear issue. The offering of this proves the transparency of our nonnuclear and peace policy. It also proves that we have no will to produce nuclear weapons.

As is well known, one cannot produce the plutonium that is necessary to manufacture nuclear weapons by using the light-water reactor.

The United States, too, supported this proposal and confirmed [hwagin] that it would make joint efforts with us to find solutions [kongdonguro haegyolbangbobul chatgiro].

At the talks, the two sides, then agreed that it is essential [pilsujok] to apply fairness [kongjongsong] in International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] nuclear safeguards.

The reason our country's nuclear issue has become complicated is that the IAEA abandoned the principle of fairness. Therefore, it is important for the IAEA to maintain fairness in nuclear safeguards. We are willing to agree on pending issues concerning nuclear safeguards with the IAEA. The fairness issue will be prodominantly discussed in our consultations with the IAEA.

At the talks, the two sides reconfirmed the importance of the Joint Declaration on the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

Our side insisted that the North and South exchange special envoys of the top-level leaders at an early date. The issue of implementing the Joint Declaration on the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and various other issues will be discussed at the contact of special envoys. If agreement is reached on all the issues at the contact of special envoys, North-South top-level talks can be held.

The U.S. side, as well, pointed out that it would encourage the North-South exchange of special envoys of the top-level leaders.

At the talks, the two sides agreed that the next round of DPRK- U.S. talks would be held in the next two months to resolve the pending problems concerning resolving the nuclear issue and the problems on improving overall DPRK-U.S. relations.

As I said, the second round of DPRK-U.S. talks was progressive in fundamentally resolving the nuclear issue and improving DPRK-U.S. reunification.

When asked how the U.S. promise that it would not use forces, including nuclear weapons, and resort to threats by using those forces is related to the Team Spirit joint military exercises, he said: We think that the U.S. promise also means that it will not conduct the Team Spirit joint military exercises, either.

We think that as it has promised, the United States must suspend the joint military exercises and take special measures [tukpyolchochi] to ensure us of complete nuclear safeguards [uriedaehan wanjonhan haektamborul chulsuinnun].

PRC Party, Government Delegation Arrives

SK2607162993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1518 GMT 26 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 26 (KCNA)—A Chinese party and Government delegation arrived here today to participate in the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the Korean people's victory in the great Fatherland Liberation War.

The delegation is formed with Hu Jintao, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, as its head and Chi Haotian, member of the Central Committee of the CPC, member of the State Council and minister of national defence, as its deputy head.

The goodwill mission of the Chinese people was warmly welcomed by a large crowd of working people at Pyongyang railway station.

The delegation was met by O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and minister of People's Armed Forces; Choe Kwang, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK and chief of the General staff of the Korean People's Army; Kye Ung- tae, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the party Central Committee; officials concerned and Zheng Yi, Chinese ambassador to Korea and officials of his embassy.

A welcome ceremony was held at the railway station.

'Arafat Arrives in Pyongyang To Mark Anniversary

SK2607054493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0454 GMT 26 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 26 (KCNA)—A delegation of the State of Palestine led by Yasir 'Arafat, president of the State of Palestine, chairman of the executive committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization and commander-in-chief of the Palestinian Revolutionary Armed Forces, arrived here today by special plane for an official visit to Korea to participate in celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the Korean people's victory in the Fatherland Liberation War upon the invitation of Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The guests were met at the airport by Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president of the DPRK.

Met by Vice President Pak Song-chol

SK2607055993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0533 GMT 26 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 26 (KCNA)—A delegation of the state of Palestine led by Yasir 'Arafat, president of the State of Palestine, chairman of the executive committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization and commander-in-chief of the Palestinian Revolutionary Armed Forces, arrived here today by special plane for an official visit to Korea to participate in celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the Korean people's victory in the fatherland liberation war upon the invitation of Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

This is the sixth visit to Korea by President Yasir 'Arafat.

Put up at the airport were portraits of President Kim Il-song and President Yasir 'Arafat and slogan boards reading "Warm welcome to the friendship envoy of the Palestinian people!" And "Long live the militant friendship and solidarity between the Korean and the Palestinian peoples!"

Also arriving were members of the delegation Hani al-Hasan, member of the Central Committee of the Palestine National Liberation Movement, head of the foreign relations department of the movement and political advisor to the president; Sakher Habash, member of the Central Committee of the Palestine National Liberation Movement; Bakir Abdul Moneim, member of the Revolutionary Council of the Palestine National Liberation Movement and PLO representative to Japan, and other suite members.

The guests were met at the airport by Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president of the DPRK, Kim Yong-nam, Politburo member of the C.C. [Central Committee], WPK, vice-premier of the Administration Council and foreign minister, and other senior officials.

Present at the airport were Palestinian ambassador E.P. to Korea Ibrahim Muhammad and his embassy officials and foreign diplomatic envoys.

A welcome ceremony took place at the airport.

President Yasir 'Arafat, accompanied by Vice President Pak Song-chol, reviewed a guard of honour of the three services of the Korean People's Army.

Thousands of Pyongyang citizens with miniature flags of the two countries, bunches of flowers and welcome decorations warmly welcomed the friendship envoy of the Palestinian people at the airport.

More than 100,000 Pyongyangites welcomed President Yasir 'Arafat and his entourage along the route from Yonmot-tong to Kumsong street via the Yonghung intersection.

Daily Article Marks 'Second Liberation Day'

SK2607145193 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0026 GMT 22 Jul 93

[NODONG SINMUN 22 July special article by Dr. Pak Mun-kon: "The Historic Second Liberation Day of Defending the National Dignity and Sovereignty"]

[Text] As the 40th anniversary of the great war victory nears, our people feel a deep emotion in recalling the respected and beloved leader's immortal achievements.

The party Central Committee's slogan, which was issued on the 40th anniversary of the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War notes: 27 July, a memorial day of our war victory, is the second liberation day. Along with 15 August, it remembers that our people defended the national dignity and sovereignty by defeating imperialists' aggression.

To correctly evaluate the position and significance of the memorial day of our people's victory in the Fatherland Liberation War is an important question in glorifying forever through generations the world-historic achievements accumulated by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song during the struggle to protect the national sovereignty and mankind's destiny.

Only under the leadership of the working class' leader, the working popular masses can attain victory in their just war to defeat the enemy's aggression and to achieve national independence from outside imperialists' colonial subordination. Therefore, the key to victory in the war and its historical significance should be analyzed and evaluated thoroughly based on the revolutionary view of the leader and according to the demand of the age of independence.

By defining 27 July, the memorial day of our war victory, as the second liberation day, the dear comrade leader newly elucidated what historic position the memorial day of victory in the Fatherland Liberation War has in the history of our nation and in the course of implementing the cause of independence, thus enabling us to further glorify immortal achievements of the great leader, who attained the historic victory in the Fatherland Liberation War by wisely leading our people and People's Army. The dear comrade leader's definition of the memorial day of our war victory provided boundless happiness to our people and greatly encouraged their national dignity and revolutionary pride.

The reason our people call the memorial day of their war victory a second liberation day is that our people defended the national dignity and sovereignty after defeating the imperialists' aggression. The national dignity and sovereignty of people is as valuable as their life. People, whose dignity and sovereignty was deprived of or infringed upon by aggressors, cannot avoid the destiny of a slave. In order for people under subordination to liberate their nation, they must restore and defend their dignity and sovereignty without fail.

The Korean revolution was pioneered in the arduous struggle to restore and defend the national dignity and sovereignty against imperialists' aggression and subordination, under the banner of the chuche idea, and it has been victorious in the course of the struggle.

15 August is the historic liberation day that commemorates the restoration of the national sovereignty and independence, which was possible because of the great leader, who freed the nation from the colonial situation after defeating Japanese imperialists by victoriously leading the arduous and long anti-Japanese war.

After the 15 August liberation, South Korea was reduced to a colony again. The imperialists conducted an armed invasion aimed at making whole Korea a colony by overturning the people's democratic system of the northern half of the Republic. Thus, our nation faced a crisis involving life and death.

Our people, however, has honorably defended the fatherland's liberty and independence by attaining historic victory in the tough war after defeating the enemy's armed invasion. For this reason, our people regard the memorial day of their war victory as a revolutionary happy day, which is symbolic of the second liberation.

The historic victory in the Fatherland Liberation War of our people who defended the national dignity and sovereignty after defeating the imperialists' aggression is a historic event, which is noteworthy in our nation's long history, and it has great significance in accelerating mankind's cause of independence.

By attaining victory in the Fatherland Liberation War, our people greatly contributed to defending the people's cause for justice and world peace and security as well as opened a new age of upsurging the anti-imperialist cause of independence.

Because of imperialists' aggressions, plundering, and war provocation maneuvers following World War II, almost all countries in the world failed to defend their sovereignty or to avoid imperialists' aggressions.

We cannot think of the historic advance of mankind's cause of independence without anti-imperialist and anti-aggression struggle. The imperialist forces' aggressive maneuvers against the Korean people were insidious moves aimed at lighting the fuse of a third world war.

However, the imperialists' allied forces failed to realize their ambition to occupy all of Korea and to dominate peace- loving people of the world because of our people's heroic struggle in the Fatherland Liberation War.

Peoples of many countries encouraged by our people's victory came to firmly believe that they could protect their national independence and sovereignty when they sternly fight against aggressors with conviction of their own strength. The flame of the anti-imperialist struggle for national liberation began to steadily spread all over the world.

At that time, the International Federation of Trade Unions issued an appeal to working people of the world, which stressed: The Korean people, who rose up to protect their fatherland, set an example of sternness in their struggle against aggression. The Korean fighters gave a fresh shock to the worldwide struggle of the people opposing imperialism and colonialism.

It was no accident that the appeal stated so.

It is totally valuable fruits of the great leader Comrade Kim Il- song's wise leadership that our people came to have the second liberation day after winning the Fatherland Liberation War.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il noted: The leader [suryongnim] is the originator of our revolutionary armed forces and an iron-willed, ever-victorious, and sagacious general who led the two revolutionary wars against the strong imperialist enemy to brilliant victory. He is also a military genius who created chuche-oriented military ideas, strategies, and tactics.

Our people's Fatherland Liberation War was an unprecedentedly arduous, tough, and formidable war. Our people were able to finally attain victory in showdowns with the enemy, whose military technology and manpower were superior to theirs, thanks to the great leader who led them at the forefront.

As soon as the Fatherland Liberation War began, the respected and beloved leader, who is a legendary, anti-Japanese fighter and a great military strategist, defined the nature of this war and promptly reorganized the whole country on a wartime structure. Then, he strengthened the party, the headquarters of the revolution, and firmly united all the people around the party. He also strengthened the revolutionary armed forces and took various measures to guarantee the production of wartime supplies.

While firmly arming the People's Army and the people with the self-defensive military idea, the great leader wisely led them to smash the aggressors, who were proud of their superiority in manpower and technology, by using their political and ideological superiority, unique strategies and tactics, and chuche-oriented military strategies.

The great leader sometimes visited the foremost front and led important operations to victory, shouldering all burdens of war. Completely entrusting all their destinies to the great leader, our People's Army soldiers and people defended every inch of the fatherland risking their lives after striking an exterminatory blow to aggressors by displaying the unparalleled mass-oriented heroism and their spirit of self-sacrifice.

Our People's Army and people could reach the second liberation day of defending the national dignity and sovereignty from the enemy's aggression because they fought death-defyingly, firmly united around the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, an iron-willed and ever-victorious general.

Our victory in the Fatherland Liberation War is really a great victory of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song's outstanding military ideas, strategies, tactics, and chuche-oriented military strategies and arts of leadership. It is also a historic event that demonstrated to the world that a people, who are firmly united around their leader and are heroically struggling to develop their destinies, can defeat any aggressive forces of imperialists and can defend their national dignity and sovereignty.

Our people and People's Army officers and men, who achieved the historic victory in the Fatherland Liberation War and are now meaningfully marking the 40th anniversary of their war victory, bear deep in their hearts the historical truth that the people can save themselves from a precarious situation and can firmly defend their national dignity and sovereignty only by upholding the great leader.

Today our People's Army and people are defending the socialist stronghold steel-strong under the leadership of the dear comrade leader, an iron-willed and sagacious general, who succeeded to the chuche cause pioneered by the great leader and is brilliantly consummating it.

No one in the world can match the might of our people, who uphold the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as the supreme commander of our revolutionary armed forces and are fighting with single-hearted unity around him.

Immortal achievements of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song, who provided the second liberation day to our people by leading the great Fatherland Liberation War to victory, and who has firmly defended our national dignity and sovereignty, will be glorified forever through generations along with history of our nation and the advance of mankind's cause of independence.

Kim Chong-il, Kim Il-song Meet With Yi In-mo

SK2307112793 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0800 GMT 23 Jul 93

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song met with Comrade Yi In-mo together with guiding cadres of the party and the state.

Together with guiding cadres of the party and the state, Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and people, met today with Comrade Yi In-mo, a veteran of the Fatherland Liberation War and a former war correspondent of the Korean People's Army [KPA], who participated in the National Veterans' Meeting.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, chairman of the DPRK National Defense Committee and KPA supreme commander, was on hand.

Also present at the meeting were Comrade O Chin-u, first vice chairman of the DPRK National Defense Committee and minister of the Ministry of the People's Armed Forces; Comrade Kang Song-san, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] and premier of the State Administration Council; Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice president of the DPRK; Comrade Choe Kwang, vice chairman of the DPRK National Defense Committee and chief of general staff of the KPA; and Comrade Kye Ung-tae, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and secretary of the party Central Committee.

Expressing his great satisfaction with the improved health of Comrade Yi In-mo, the incarnation of faith and will, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song warmly congratulated him on his being invited to the national veterans meeting.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song said that hero Yi In-mo, who had become a disabled man due to the enemies' brutal torture and persecution, recovered his health several months after he returned to the Republic's bosom. He added that he could recover his health because of the care of the great socialist fatherland, the party's warm and benevolent love, and the revolutionary comrades' sincere care.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song said that hero Yi In-mo, who had won in pitting faith against enemies, is a typical, undaunted WPK member who has firm faith and strong will. The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song then expressed his conviction that hero Yi In-mo will completely recover his health as soon as possible and devote his remaining life to the reunification of the fatherland and the sacred task for the country's prosperity.

Comrade Yi In-mo extended his warmest thanks to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il who saved his political and bodily life and had him take a seat at the glorious rostrum today. He renewed his burning resolve that he will devote his single mind to the sacred cause of the fatherland's reunification.

Leaders Attend National War Veterans Conference

SK2607032193 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0500 GMT 23 Jul 93

[Excerpts] A national conference of war veterans was grandly opened in Pyongyang, the capital of the revolution, in the morning of 23 July. We will now report the opening of the conference.

[Begin recording] This is the 8 February Cultural Hall in Pyongyang. The conference, which is convened amid the historic circumstance in which all of the people throughout the country are vigorously waging the struggle for the victory of the socialist cause with firm faith in certain victory and indomitable will under the great party's leadership, will record another brilliant chapter in the history of our party and the revolution. [passage omitted]

The conference was attended by 6,000 representatives of war veterans selected from war veterans across the country. The conference was also attended by members and candidate members of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK]; members of the WPK Central Military Commission; members of the DPRK National Defense Commission; functionaries from the party, state, and military organs; and anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters.

A portrait of Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and people, is respectfully placed in the forefront of the conference site with the flag of the Korean People's Army [KPA] for a background. The slogans which read "Long live the Great Leader Comrade Kim Il-song" and "Long live the glorious WPK."

Placed on the background of the rostrum of the conference are a model of Mt. Paektu, the sacred mountain of the revolution, and the letters, "National Conference of War Veterans.

Also hung in the conference site are the slogans which read "Let us reunify the country without fail in the great leader's time under the leadership of our supreme commander Comrade Kim Chong-il," "Let the entire party, all of the people, and the entire Army unite as one mind and consummate the cause of socialism to the end," and "Let war veterans live and struggle in the same spirit and mettle that they displayed in the struggle for the freedom and independence of the country." [passage omitted]

Comrade O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, first vice chairman of the National Defense Commission, and minister of the People's Armed Forces; Comrade Kang Song-san, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and premier of the Administration Council; Comrade Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice president; Comrade Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice premier of the Administration Council; Comrade Choe Kwang, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, vice chairman of the National Defense Commission, and chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army; Comrade Kye Ung-tae, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and secretary of the party Central Committee; Comrade Chon Pyong-ho, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, member of the National Defense Commission, and secretary of the party Central Committee; Comrade Han Song-yong, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and secretary of the party Central Committee; Comrade Kim Chol-man, candidate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and member of the National Defense Commission; Comrades Choe Tae-pok and Kim Yong-sun, candidate members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and secretaries of the party Central Committee; Comrades Choe Yong-nim, Hong Song-nam, Kang Hui-won, and Kim Tal-hyon, candidate members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice premiers of the Administration Council; Comrades (Yi Wol-sol), Chu To-il, Choe In-tok, Paek Hak-nim, Yi Tu-ik, Kim Pong-yul, and Kim Kwang-chin, KPA vice marshals; Comrades Kim Chung-nin, Yun Ki-pok, So Kwan-hui, Hwang Chang-yop, Kim Ki-nam, Kim Kuk-tae, and Pak Nam-ki, secretaries of the WPK Central Committee; Comrades Kim Pok-sin, Kim Yun-hyok, Kim Hwan, and Chang Chol, vice premiers of the Administration Council; Comrade Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly; Comrade Chon Mun-sop, chairman of the State Inspection Commission; Kim Pyong-sik, chairman of the Korean Social Democratic Party; Chong Sin-hyok, chairman of the Chondoist Chongu Party; anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters; and representatives of war veterans are present on the rostrum.

Also, Comrade Yi In-mo, war veteran of the Fatherland Liberation War and former KPA war correspondent, is present on the rostrum.

Comrade Kye Ung-tae, memeber of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and secretary of the party Central Committee, makes an opening speech. [passage omitted] [end recording]

WPK Secretary Speaks at Meeting

SK2407040593 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0507 GMT 23 Jul 93

[Opening speech by Kye Ung-tae, member of the Political Bureau of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee and secretary of the party Central Committee, at the National Conference of War Veterans held at 8 February Hall of Culture on 23 July—recorded]

[Text] Comrades,

Today, with single-hearted unity, the entire party, all the people, and the entire Army are defending, protecting, and glorifying the socialist cause while smashing [chitpusimyonso] various challenges by imperialists and reactionaries and are meaningfully celebrating the 40th anniversary of the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War with great dignity and pride as winners. In this environment, we hold the national conference of war veterans in the presence of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song. [applause]

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song raised the first generation of war veterans in the arduous struggle of pioneering the Korean revolution long ago, enlarged the ranks of war veterans during the severe windstorms of revolution, fostered them as the core forces of our revolution, and has wisely led them to worthwhile struggles and feats in every period and stage of revolutionary development. The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's attendance at the national conference of war veterans is a great honor and provides boundless happiness for all meeting participants and war veterans all over the country. [applause]

The national conference of war veterans called by the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee and the party's Central Military Commission is the first war veterans meeting in the history of our country. It will be held amid the great interest and expectations of all the people and soldiers.

All meeting participants are overflowing with endless admiration for and fervent loyalty to the party and the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, who is wisely leading war veterans, considering them as the core of our party and our revolutionary Armed Forces and as vanguard fighters of our revolution. They are also filled with the ardent resolution to struggle to consummate the chuche revolutionary cause more stoutly, upholding the party's leadership. [applause]

The following people are participating in the meeting as delegates: Old revolutionary fighters who made immortal contributions to achieving the cause of fatherland liberation after defeating the Japanese imperialists throughout the long and bloodstained road of anti-Japanese struggle; officers and men of the People's Army and the People's Security Forces, who established heroic feats in the battles for liberating Seoul and Taejon, the Naktong River battle, the battle for defending the 1211th hill, and other important battles in the Fatherland Liberation War; public security functionaries who devotedly struggled to protect revolutionary gains and the people's lives and property in the flames of war; members of the people's guerrilla units and loyal youth guards who bravely fought against the enemy behind enemy lines; functionaries at railway and military supply sectors, who heroically struggled in bombing attacks by the enemy's planes to guarantee transportation and production of military supplies during the war; and people of merit who wholeheartedly supported the war front. Functionaries of the party, the state, and the Armed Forces are also participating in the meeting.

Comrade Yi In-mo—who participated in the Fatherland Liberation War as a war correspondent of the Korean People's Army, boldly struggled against the enemy, kept his revolutionary faith and integrity throughout his decades-long, difficult imprisonment in South Korea, and returned to the bosom of the socialist fatherland after winning victory by fighting resolutely—is also participating in this meeting after accepting with pleasure the invitation of the national conference of war veterans. [applause]

It is another great victory of our country's socialist system that Comrade Yi In-mo, who became as good as the living dead since he was unable to even move his body because of the enemy's harsh torture and oppression, is now able to participate in this meeting after regaining his health in our party's great interest and consideration. It is also a happy event, which gives great pleasure to all our people and war veterans who are meaningfully marking the 40th anniversary of the victory in the war with a grand festival of winners. [applause]

In the name of the national conference of war veterans, I warmly welcome hero Yi In-mo, a symbol of faith and will, who is attending the meeting after returning to the bosom of the socialist fatherland and the great leader whom he missed whether he was awake or asleep for more than 40 years. [applause]

I declare open the national veterans meeting with a conviction that the meeting will become a meeting of loyalty which demonstrates the firm faith and indomitable will of the veterans to struggle to the end with the Paektu revolutionary spirit and one-a-match-for-a- hundred combat spirit unshaken in any situation under the leadership of the party and the leader, and a historic meeting which will open a momentous turning point for defending, adhering to, and adding luster to the popular mass-centered socialism of our own style with the might of wholehearted unity.

Premier Reads Congratulatory Letter

SK2407044493 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0516 GMT 23 Jul 93

[Congratulatory letter to the National Conference of War Veterans from the Workers Party of Korea, WPK, Central Committee, read by Kang Song-san, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and premier of the DPRK Administration Council, at the opening ceremony of the National Conference of War Veterans held on the morning of 23 July—recorded]

[Text] [Applause] Congratulatory letter to the National Conference of War Veterans.

The National Conference of War Veterans has opened at a time when the entire party, all the people, and the entire Army are meaningfully marking the 40th anniversary of the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War with high revolutionary pride in the fact that they are vigorously marching along the socialist road under the banner of the chuche idea.

The National Veterans' Meeting is a meeting that demonstrates the indomitable, fighting spirits of our veterans who achieved proud feats for the fatherland and the people in the honorable anti-Japanese revolutionary war and the honorable Fatherland Liberation War under the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song's wise leadership. It is also a historic meeting of momentous importance in crushing the antisocialist maneuvers by the imperialists and reactionaries and more highly displaying the superiority and might of the socialism of our own style by brilliantly inheriting the heroic fighting spirit. [applause]

The Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee extends warm congratulations to the war veterans across the country who devotedly struggled for the fatherland's liberation and the people's freedom in the anti-imperialist revolutionary war under the wise leadership of the party and the leader and who have greatly contributed to carrying out the socialist cause in guardposts of revolution and construction. [applause]

Our war veterans are old revolutionaries who displayed heroism and the spirit of sacrifice in rescuing the destiny of the fatherland and the nation and defending national independence and the revolutionary feats by waging a long, bloody war against the imperialist aggressors. They are also vanguard revolutionary fighters who have played a leading role in victoriously advancing the chuche-oriented revolutionary cause.

Our war veterans are leading figures who have a firm chuche-oriented revolutionary view and outlook on the leader [suryong] and who make it their principle to think and act as required by the ideas and will of the party and the leader. They are also heroic fighters who have a firm belief in the justness of the socialist cause and its victory and who have achieved feats in the struggle for prosperity in the fatherland and the victory of the chuche-oriented revolutionary cause. [applause]

When the destiny of the fatherland and the nation was gloomy, the war veterans of the anti-Japanese revolution upheld the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as the center of unity and the center of leadership, firmly guaranteed the leader's [suryong] monolithic leadership of the Korean revolutionary movement, and achieved the cause of the fatherland's liberation and contributed to establishing an honorable revolutionary tradition in our party by displaying the indomitable struggle spirits and the spirits of patriotic devotion.

After the liberation, the war veterans of the anti-Japanese revolution, who are elders in our revolution [urihyongmyongui wollo], carried out the entire-party, all-people, and entire-Army causes and displayed loyalty toward the party and the leader in practice throughout the course of the democratic revolution, the Fatherland Liberation War, and socialist construction.

The Fatherland Liberation War veterans defeated the enemy and honorably defended freedom and independence in the fatherland in the stern war against the combined imperialist forces that attacked our young republic in order to eliminate it in its infancy. In this way, they proudly demonstrated the heroic spirit of our people and the People's Army to the world.

The war veterans participated in the postwar restoration work and socialist construction and clearly demonstrated the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude. In doing so, they actively contributed to building on top of the ruins a strong socialist country of independence, self-dependence, and self-reliance. They also made great achievements in vigorously building a superior socialism centered on the popular masses and a people's paradise where everyone enjoys a happy life.

Through the anti-imperialist revolutionary war and practical struggle of socialist construction, our veterans grew up to be the core forces of the revolution. They upheld the party's line of independent national defense buildup and conversion of the Army into a cadre Army; the modernization of the whole Army; arming the people with weapons; and turning the whole country into a fortress. Thus, they smashed [chitbusida] the endless aggression and war maneuvers by the imperialists and the South Korean puppets every step of the way and magnificently fulfilled the duty of firmly safeguarding our people's independent and creative life.

Whenever the revolutionary situation became tense and opposing the enemies at home and abroad became more acute, our veterans fulfilled their duties and obligations as revolutionary fighters and sacrificed their lives in the struggle to magnificently defend the party and the leader and safeguard and adhere to the party's cause.

During the long and arduous struggle, the veterans experienced the truth of the revolution in their hearts.

Therefore, at the historical turning point when our revolution intensified and developed into a higher stage, they provided a magnificent example of fighters embodying the party's noble will to succeed brilliantly and complete the chuche revolutionary cause generation after generation.

Our veterans are strengthening and developing our party into a chuche-type revolutionary party; firmly consolidating the whole party, the whole people, and the whole army into a crystal of single-hearted loyalty and filial piety; accelerating the three revolutions of ideology, technology, and culture by highly upholding the program of modeling the whole society after the chuche idea; and magnificently fulfilling the honorary missions and duties of revolutionaries of the old generation in safeguarding, adhering to, and completing socialism of our own style.

Through two arduous anti-imperialist revolutionary wars; two serious social revolutions; and through various stages of social construction accompanied by difficult trials unprecedented in the world's revolutionary war history, the veterans accumulated disciplined and abundant experiences. For our party and revolutionary Armed Forces to have such veterans as the core force is our great pride and happiness.

Our party is strong and our fatherland is mighty because of the reliable veterans who have been disciplined and prepared over the long course of the revolutionary struggle. All of the victories and results achieved in the revolution and construction by our party and people are stained with our veterans' red blood and noble lives.

Our party values and loves with warm hearts the veterans who shared their lives and fates with the party while plowing through the arduous storm of the revolution; puts the veterans in the center of the revolution; and leads the veterans to the one road of struggle and accomplishments. Also, amid the party's endless trust and love, our veterans are enjoying valuable and worthwhile lives that cannot be found anywhere else.

The WPK Central Committee believes that by upholding the leadership of the party and the leader, our veterans made a brilliant achievement on the road of sacred struggle for the independent reunification and prosperity of the fatherland and that they continue to struggle vigorously in order to accomplish the chuche cause of revolution. [applause]

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught:

Our revolution has not ended. We should continue to struggle until we accomplish the chuche cause of revolution.

Our party has walked along the single road of victory and glory, which had been pioneered under the revolutionary banner of the chuche idea, and is consummating the revolutionary cause. The mission and responsibilities assigned to our veterans are heavy. Loyalty to the party and the leader is a part of our people's lives and a fundamental demand for strengthening the main force of our revolutionary organization which shoulders the socialist cause.

Deeply aware that our people's greatest fortune is to receive the leadership of the great leader [suryong] and the great party, our veterans should continue to add luster to [words indistinct] of being endlessly loyal to the ideology and leadership of the party and the leader and of safeguarding their leader [yongdoja] with a do-or-die spirit. Veterans should inherit and embody to the end the battle strength based on the single-minded unity which constitutes the core of revolutionary battle strength. They should demonstrate loyalty in the substantial struggle to implement the party's line and [words indistinct].

(?Socialism) is faith, will, and the moral duty of our people and veterans. Veterans should become strong and heroic fighters who live up to the principles of socialism under any adversity, cherishing firm faith that protecting, defending, adhering to, and consummating the popular masses-centered socialism of our own style to the end is a life-long cause for themselves and future generations.

Veterans should actively embark on the movement to expedite the speed of a general onward march of socialism of our own style with revolutionary zeal, with the strong sense of morality with which they overcame [words indistinct] while sleeping in the wind and frost, with heroism, and with the spirit of undaunted struggle displayed in the days of fierce battle. Thus, they should effect a new upswing in revolution and construction so that our socialism will show its superiority and vitality. (applause]

The power of national self-defense should be continually strengthened in order to defend the country and the people and to accomplish the socialist cause. Veterans should vigorously launch the struggle to consolidate the country's defensive power by highly displaying the spirit of the Paektu revolution and the one-a-match-for-100 military spirit. Veterans should build our party's military line and further strengthen our People's Army as an unrivaled powerful army, thus smashing the imperialists' adventurous, aggressive maneuver at a stroke and protecting and defending the party, the leader, the socialist system with armed force.

Veterans should firmly consolidate the people-oriented and nationwide defense system; support the People's Army; be a good example in establishing the social trait of attaching great importance to the military; and work to bring into full bloom the traditional virtue of Army-people unity.

Struggle for the fatherland's reunification is a continuation of the fatherland's independence and revolutionary struggle for liberation. Our generation is entrusted with the historical task of handing over a reunified fatherland to future generations.

Veterans must actively contribute to ending nearly half a century of national division and achieving the fatherland's reunification at an early date by vigorously rising up in the sacred struggle to reunify the fatherland independently and peacefully in conformity with the whole nation's united and independent strength under the banner of the three principles for the fatherland's reunification and the 10-point program of the great unity of the whole nation, the common reunification program of the nation. [applause]

The first generation of the revolution should prepare the new generations well so that they can succeed brilliantly in our party's chuche revolutionary cause which was pioneered in the sacred mountains of Mt. Paektu. Our veterans' most responsible work is the second generation.

Veterans should firmly prepare the new generations in political, ideological, and class consciousness so that they can firmly establish the revolutionary world outlook of chuche, resolutely fight against imperialism, and complete the socialism of our own style generation after generation.

Veterans should foster the new generations to become capable revolutionary men with high independent and ideological consciousness, creative capability, and military talents. In this way, they should work to become the pillars of the three revolutions in socialist construction and reliable men in charge of defending the fatherland.

Our veterans' creed in life is that revolutionaries can be senile physically but never ideologically. They should live and work with vigor [words indistinct], should elucidate even more the feats that were learned during the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle and the Fatherland Liberation War in today's formidable reality, and continue to bring the revolutionary flower into full bloom.

As in the past, our veterans will continue to unite firmly around the party and the leader and continue to struggle vigorously for the fatherland's independent reunification and the completion of the chuche socialist cause. By doing so, the WPK Central Committee is of the firm belief that our veterans will repay the party's high trust and expectation magnificently. [applause]

[Signed] WPK Central Committee
[Dated] 23 July 1993 [applause]

National Meeting Held To Mark War 'Victory'

SK2607120193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1116 GMT 26 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 26 (KCNA)—A national meeting was held at the Pyongyang indoor stadium today with a large attendance to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the victory in the Great Fatherland Liberation War.

Placed on the platform of the meeting hall was a portrait of the great leader President Kim Il-song against the background of the national flag.

Hanging on walls were slogans reading "Let us add shine to our socialism with the might of singlehearted unity!", "Let us become the vanguard and death-defying corps unboundedly loyal to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the glorious party!", "Let us reunify the country at any cost in the 90s for the posterity!", etc.

Seen on the platform were silk banners to the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il from the Central Committees [C.C.] of the South Korean National Democratic Front [SKNDF] and the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan.

Present at the meeting were O Chin-u, Presidium member of the Political Bureau of the C.C., the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], first vice-chairman of the Defense Commission of the DPRK and minister of People's Armed Forces, and Premier of the Administration Council Kang Song-san and Vice-President Pak Song-chol, who are Politburo Members of the WPK Central Committee, and other party and government cadres.

And anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters, men and women of distinguished services in the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, veterans of the Fatherland Liberation War, heroes and heroines, disabled soldiers, bereaved families of patriotic martyrs and working people in the city, more than 20,000 all told participated in the meeting.

Kang Song-san made a report at the meeting.

Yi Chin-kyu, first vice-chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan, who is heading a congratulatory group of Korean residents in Japan for the 40th anniversary of the war victory, made a congratulatory speech.

Kim Il-song, Kim Chong-il at Monument Ceremony

SK2607115093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1110 GMT 26 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 26 (KCNA)—A ceremony for the completion of the monument to the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War was held today in the presence of the great leader President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il, chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK and Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army.

The monument with a total plottage of 150,000 square metres on the bank of the Pothong River in Pyongyang consists of the gate, a stone monument inscribed with President Kim Il-song's autograph and another stone monument inscribed with a poem on either side of the compound, the sculpture of the main theme "Victory" and ten group sculptures of subsidiary themes.

A portrait of President Kim Il-song was set up and big balloons from which hung the slogans and streamers reading "Long Live The Great Leader Comrade Kim Il-song!", "Long Live The Glorious Workers' Party of Korea!" , "Victory and Glory to The Officers And Men of The Heroic Korean People's Army!" and "Celebration of The 40th War Victory Day" were floating in the sky above the monument.

President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il arrived at the monument amid warm cheers of the crowds.

Present at the ceremony were O Chin-u, first vice-chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK and minister of People's Armed Forces, Politburo member of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea and Premier of the Administration Council Kang Song-san and other senior party and state officials.

Leading officials of party and government bodies, administrative and economic organs and public organisations, representatives of the scientific, educational, cultural and art circles, anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters, officers and men of the People's Army and the People's Security Forces, persons who rendered meritorious services during the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, veterans of the Fatherland Liberation War, heroes and disabled soldiers and bereaved families of patriotic martyrs were also present.

President Kim Il-song waved to the warmly cheering crowds and cut the red tape across the gate, declaring the completion of the monument to the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War.

The moment, a storm of cheers of "hurrah" burst forth, hundreds of firecrackers fizzled and thousands of balloons went up into the sky.

President Kim Il-song, accompanied by senior party and state officials, went round the sculpture of the main theme "Victory" and group sculptures of subsidiary themes, acquainting himself with the depictive formation of the monument, expressed deep satisfaction with the fact that the builders and creating staff splendidly represented and built the monument as an edifice well showing the heroic struggle, indomitable spirit, strong will and revolutionary faith of our People's Army and people, and highly estimated their successful work.

President Kim Il-song posed for a souvenir picture with senior party and state officials before the sculpture of the main theme "Victory".

The monument to the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War is a heroic monument of the times which consummates and vividly represents the epic on the great victory of the Korean people through its scale, composition and description according to the noble revolutionary sense of duty of our party and its far-reaching plan to hand down to the posterity the exploits performed by the heroic soldiers who dedicated themselves to the revolutionary war for the freedom and independence of the country.

South Korea

Defense Ministry: DPRK Reports of Firing 'Groundless'

SK2407051593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0457 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, 24 [as received] (YONHAP)—The Defense Ministry denied Saturday [24 July] a North Korean allegation that South Korean Army troops had fired machineguns at a North Korean guard post across the demilitarized zone.

France's AFP news agency, quoting Pyongyang's Korean Central News Agency, reported Friday that South Korean troops fired more than 10 rounds of machinegun bullets into a North Korean guard post.

The Defense Ministry said it had checked with all army units stationed along the DMZ and found out that the report of firing was groundless.

Seoul Offers Technology if North Allows Inspection

SK2407070493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0657 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 24 (YONHAP)—South Korean Government will consider to help North Korea introduce light water-moderated reactors in financial and technological aspects if North Korea accepts nuclear inspection of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and simultaneous inspection between South and North Korea, National Unification Minister Han Wan-sang said Saturday.

Han, who is also deputy prime minister, told in an interview with YONHAP that "North Korea asked the United States at talks in Geneva on July 19 to help it introduce light water-moderated reactors because it wanted not only to solve the urgent energy crisis, but also to prove their interests in peaceful use of nuclear energy to world society."

"But at present stage, South Korean Government will closely cooperate with the U.S. Government on the issue so that North Korea will not make aids from the U.S. on its introducing light water-moderated reactors as a precondition of its accepting nuclear inspection," Han said.

"South Korean Government will continue to put priority on solving North Korea's nuclear problem and will make efforts to have a dialogue between Seoul and Pyongyang at an early date," he said.

Meanwhile, North Korean Vice Premier Kim Tal-hyon asked South Korean Government during his visit to

Seoul in July last year to help it introduce light water-moderated reactors, which was rejected by Seoul government because of financial burden.

DPRK Reportedly Easing 'Semi-State of War'

SK2607030493 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0200 GMT 26 Jul 93

[YONHAP report from Tokyo]

[Text] Quoting a source from Yanbian, China, Japan's ASAHI SHIMBUN reported on 26 July that it seems that North Korea is easing its semi-state of war, which was proclaimed after North Korea announced that it will withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] in March, on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the armistice.

Quoting a source in Yanbian Korean Autonomous Prefecture, ASAHI SHIMBUN reported that North Korea, which prohibited relatives from the Yanbian Korean Autonomous Prefecture from visiting North Korea after its announcement to withdraw from the NPT in March, has recently allowed relatives to visit North Korea as before.

It was also learned that North Korea notified the Yanbian Korean Autonomous Prefecture that it will once again allow foreign tourists to visit North Korea after the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the armistice which ends on 27 July.

Experts analyzed that this kind of move was made by North Korea because it felt that negotiations with the United States surrounding suspicions on the nuclear issue were being held comparatively smoothly from North Korea's position.

ASAHI SHIMBUN also reported that China's congratulatory delegation on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the armistice led by Hu Jintao, member of the Standing Committee of the CPC, will visit Pyongyang on 26 July and hold talks on the possibility of Kim Chong-il visiting China and the future of the nuclear issue.

Envoy to UN Views U.S.-DPRK Talks Favorably

SK2507100393 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 24 Jul 93 p 9

[Interview with Yu Chong-ha, ROK ambassador to UN, on U.S.-North Korean talks in Geneva, by UN Headquarters-based correspondent Kim Cha-ung in Geneva on 22 July]

[Text] [Kim Cha-ung] The United States reported the results of the Geneva talks with North Korea to the UN Security Council [UNSC] at a closed-door meeting today. What was the UNSC member nations' reaction?

[Yu Chong-ha] They seem to be relieved since they believe that U.S.-DPRK talks are a positive [kungjongjok] process. They believe the United States is holding negotiations with North Korea with conviction.

[Kim] Judging from Japanese Foreign Minister Muto Kabun's recent remarks, it seems that Japan has a negative view concerning the Geneva talks' results.

[Yu] No. Japan views it positively. However, it does not regard the recent talks' result as fundamental progress. Japan has a harder position on the North Korean nuclear issue than any other UNSC member nation. Its position is that it would be satisfied only with complete and firm progress in the nuclear issue.

[Kim] Then, is the ROK Government satisfied with the recent talks' results?

[Yu] Our position is somewhat different from Japan's. Above all, the ROK is more sensitive to security of the Korean peninsula than Japan. The ROK, the United States, and Japan are cooperating in discussing strategies toward North Korea. In effect, however, the ROK is approaching negotiations with North Korea in cooperation with the United States, and the two countries considerably share the responsibility for negotiations with North Korea. The United States is holding close discussions with us since we share the same position.

[Kim] Some people think the United States is optimistic about future talks with North Korea.

[Yu] I view it positively, rather than pessimistically, for the following four reasons. First, since the beginning of the talks between the United States and North Korea, the United States has made it clear that if North Korea engaged in nuclear reprocessing during the talks, it would violate the principle of sincerity. The United States is of the view that North Korea should meet that demand. Second, negotiations so far have been going in a direction, in which North Korea will completely rejoin the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. Third, I am satisfied with North Korea's agreement on holding negotiations with the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] concerning inspections of its two suspicious facilities at Yongbyon, although any specific agreement on it has not yet been reached. Fourth, I believe that negotiations will be led in a more positive direction in the future because North Korea has called for U.S. support for the replacement of its reactors with light water reactors.

[Kim] What are the prospects for negotiations between the IAEA and North Korea on special inspections [tukpyol sachal]?

[Yu] Negotiations on special inspections will not be easy because North Korea insists on the IAEA's impartiality. However, the United States plans to resume negotiations with North Korea after observing how IAEA-North Korean negotiations develop.

[Kim] People note the possibility that North Korea will stall for time under the pretext of its negotiations with the IAEA and the replacement of its reactors with light water reactors.

[Yu] Since the United States gave North Korea a two-month time limit, North Korea has to hold negotiations with the IAEA and the ROK respectively within the next two months and has to show progress in the negotiations.

The United States has also made it clear that North Korea should not proceed with nuclear reprocessing work regardless of the two-month time limit. The problem concerning light-water reactors is a long-term issue since it will take five to 10 years to install because of necessary technological examination and financial problems. But, the special inspections problem is an imminent issue and it should be settled in about two or three months. Therefore, I think that North Korea will find it methodologically difficult to delay nuclear inspections by using the light-water reactors issue and the like as a pretext. The United States is ready to stop talks with North Korea and take action at any point if North Korea violates the principle of sincerity.

[Kim] What do you think is the ROK's role in resolving the North Korean nuclear issue?

[Yu] The ROK has two important functions, which the IAEA does not have. First, the ROK has the legal power to prevent North Korea from proceeding with nuclear reprocessing work because the South-North declaration on denuclearization prohibits the two sides from reprocessing nuclear fuel. Neither the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty nor the IAEA have a provision prohibiting nuclear reprocessing. Second, since military facilities are not excluded from targets of South-North bilateral inspections, the ROK can inspect North Korea's facilities, but North Korea does not allow the inspections because they are military facilities. In addition, the level of North Korea's nuclear transparency needed to satisfy the ROK is higher than the one to satisfy the IAEA because the ROK is directly exposed to North Korea's nuclear threat. South-North bilateral inspections must be conducted without fail because they are very important in order to increase North Korea's nuclear transparency.

[Kim] Does the UNSC have any plan for further discussion on the North Korean nuclear issue?

[Yu] I think the UNSC will take no action other than receiving reports on the talks between the United States and North Korea as long as they are going on.

Former Ambassador to IAEA on U.S.-DPRK Talks

SK2607025593 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 25 Jul 93 p 5

[Interview by reporter O Yong-hwan with Chong Kun-mo, former ROK minister of science and technology and former ROK ambassador for nuclear energy cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency, discussing the significance of the recent U.S.-North Korean talks held in Geneva; place and date not given; first four paragraphs are CHUNGANG ILBo report's note]

[Text] The North Korean nuclear issue is finding a clue to its solution as a result of the North Korea-U.S. talks in Geneva. However, there will be quite a few problems to solve before the suspicion of North Korean nuclear weapons development is resolved completely.

North Korea's raising the issue of assistance in the development of light-water-moderated reactors in the negotiation with the United States adds to the problem.

The North Korean claim that it wishes to replace their graphite-moderated reactors, which are designed to produce plutonium, with light-water-moderated reactors gives, on the surface, an impression that North Korea does not intend to produce plutonium for the production of nuclear weapons. However, considering the period and expense required for building light-water-moderated reactors, we are inclined to suspect that this could be another of North Korea's delay tactics.

We interviewed Chong Kun-mo, 54, director of the High-Technology Research Institute and former chairman of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] 1989 general meeting, former minister of science and technology, and former ROK ambassador for nuclear energy cooperation with the IAEA, to listen to his views of the technological and political problems involved in the solution of the North Korean nuclear issue.

[O Yong-hwan] In the second round of talks held in Geneva, the United States and North Korea agreed that it is desirable for North Korea to replace its graphite-moderated reactors with light-water-moderated reactors and agreed to jointly explore ways for the replacement. What is the cost and time required to replace the graphite-moderated reactors with light-water-moderated reactors?

[Chong Kun-mo] The two countries used the expression "replace" in the statement they issued. However, technologically the expression should be "abolish."

Replacing the graphite-moderated reactors with light-water-moderated reactors is impossible without building the reactors anew.

It takes 10 years to build a light-water-moderated reactor—three years to design and seven years to build.

It costs $2 billion to build a 1-million-kw light-water-moderated reactor. Therefore, replacing the North Korean nuclear reactors with light-water-moderated reactors is an issue of economic cooperation rather than a nuclear issue. North Korea must have had this in mind.

[O] There was a report that the ROK, the United States, and Japan might participate in the project in the form of a consortium. Is that true?

[Chong] That was discussed at one time, I know. The United States and France are most advanced in the technology of light-water-moderated reactors. But our country has the world-standard technology in this area too.

At present, 90 percent of the building of the light-water-moderated reactor is done by local supplies. By 1995 it will be more than 95 percent.

Therefore, if the transparency of the North Korean nuclear program is confirmed leading to the creation of a favorable condition, our country will have no difficulty in participating in the project with a leading role.

[O] Is there a significant problem in the safety of the graphite-moderated reactors?

[Chong] The moderating material is designed to control the speed of nuclear fission. However, using graphite as moderating material poses a danger because of the impure heat [chabyol] graphite has. The Chernobyl power plant of the former Soviet Union consisted of a graphite-moderated reactor.

Moreover, North Korea is reported to have insufficient technology for deep-layer protection of the hangar building that blocks radioactivity.

[O] What are the two unregistered facilities in Yongbyon, North Korea?

[Chong] It is presumed that one is a nuclear-waste storehouse and another a storehouse of radioactive materials that are being reprocessed.

Therefore, if these two sites are examined, the precise quantity of plutonium extracted up to now can be figured out.

Reaction of Refusal of Special Inspection:

[O] We understand that North Korea will have negotiations with the IAEA sooner or later for inspections.

[Chong] It appears that negotiations between North Korea and the IAEA over inspections will not go smoothly because North Korea is continuously making an issue of the IAEA's impartiality.

In particular, North Korea is showing strong rejection symptoms against a special inspection.

This is because there is no nation in the world that was subject to the IAEA's special inspection up to present.

Moreover, if North Korea sets a precedent of special inspection, it cannot have any justification for refusal in the event that a special inspection of other facilities is demanded.

[O] Then, what is the IAEA's impartiality that North Korea claims?

[Chong] North Korea doubts as to how IAEA came to be aware of the two nuclear facilities in Yongbyon that North Korea has not registered with IAEA.

In other words, North Korea's view is that it is impossible for the IAEA to know this with its own capability. Thus, North Korea claims that the United States interfered in this. On the other hand, however, the IAEA stresses that not only the IAEA Secretariat's own technology but also other member states' technology can be utilized.

[O] I understand that the method of simultaneous inspections between the North and the South with the IAEA's participation has been once discussed in the past within the government.

[Chong] Personally, I am opposed to this method. The IAEA conducts inspections of only peaceful nuclear facilities.

Mutual inspections between the North and the South which include military facilities are not appropriate in view of IAEA functions. Rather, such inspections would only make the issue more complicated. The possibility of delaying the inspection is also great.

[O] What is your assessment of North Korean capabilities of developing nuclear weapons?

[Chong] This is an issue related to the amount of extracted plutonium. I have no personal information of the extracted quantity.

However, if it is true that North Korea has extracted seven to 22 kg as the government analyzed, the development of such a primitive atomic bomb as dropped from a fighter is a matter of time.

Nevertheless, I presume that loading it on a missile is unlikely in view of present North Korean technology.

The North Korean Policy and Will:

[O] What is your opinion on methods desired for solution to the North Korean nuclear issue?

[Chong] Confirmation of the transparency of the North Korean nuclear issue through IAEA special inspections and North-South mutual inspections is a precondition for solving the problems. The North Korean regime's policy and will to voluntarily open nuclear facilities are of ultimate importance. Until such a change actually takes place, we cannot consider the North Korean nuclear issue completely resolved.

While the North Korean nuclear issue remains unresolved and drags on for a long period of time, Japan's nuclear armament will undoubtedly be carried out. This will result in a more difficult and arduous situation.

[O] What is your view on the theory of nuclear sovereignty?

[Chong] It seems that the theory on sovereignty over nuclear weapons and the theory on sovereignty over nuclear technology are being intermixed.

I am resolutely opposed to the theory of sovereignty over nuclear weapons.

However, the sovereignty over nuclear technology, including reprocessing facilities, is necessary for expanding the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Agreement Reached on 'Most' Taiwan Relations

SK2507000493 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2210 GMT 24 Jul 93

[By reporter Kim Chin-su from Singapore]

[Text] Our country and Taiwan have agreed on most of the principles on the establishment of unofficial relations. However, they failed to reach full agreement. Therefore, it seems that it will take some time to establish formal relations.

In a meeting with reporters on 24 July, Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu, now visiting Singapore to attend the Asian foreign ministers' meeting, revealed that some reports of unofficial relations between our country and Taiwan being established are not true. He said that thus the possibility for reestablishing relations between the two countries in the near future appears to be difficult.

Minister Han Sung-chu stated it is true that Vice Foreign Minister Hong Sun-yong went to Osaka, Japan, to attend ambassadorial-level talks for the reestablishment of relations between the two sides and met with Taiwanese Vice Foreign Minister Fang Chin-yen. However, the two sides failed to reach complete agreement. Thus, they did not sign the accord for the reestablishment of unofficial relations.

Minister Han Sung-chu also revealed that he will have Vice Minister Hong Sun-yong return home today. However, Minister Han did not elaborate on portions showing the differences in views between the two countries.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Group Urges One-Month Boycott of U.S. Consumer Goods

BK2507135093 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in Malay 1300 GMT 25 Jul 93

[Text] Mohamed Anuar Tahir, secretary of the Malaysian Action Front [MAF], suggested today that all Malaysians boycott consumer products manufactured in the United States for one month. This is to protest U.S. efforts to dominate the world by means of political influence and military dominance. He said that the call for the boycott was one of the resolutions adopted by the MAF at its meeting to discuss the need for all communities and Third World countries to oppose domination by the big powers.

The meeting was attended by representatives of the youth wing of the United Malays National Organization, UMNO; Malaysian Muslim Youths Association; Aliran [Malaysian Environmentalists Group]; and the Malaysian People's Party.

Speaking to reporters, Mr. Anuar said that the suggestion for the boycott is not meant to jeopardize U.S. industries, but to express dissatisfaction over U.S. double standards. Washington's failure to stop the Serbian genocide in Bosnia and its action to invade Iraq represent the hypocracy of U.S. foreign policy.

The other resolutions adopted at the meeting, among other things, were a call for a restructuring of the United Nations and the lifting of economic sanctions on Iraq, Libya, Cuba, and North Korea. All communities in the developing countries were also urged to unite to oppose domination by the big powers.

Minister Receives U.S. Backing on Bosnia Peacekeepers

BK2607083193 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0715 GMT 26 Jul 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, July 26 (OANA/BERNAMA)—The United States has assured Malaysia it will support the latter's offer to send troops as peacekeepers to strife-torn Bosnia-Herzegovina but said it may object to the despatch of soldiers by certain other Islamic states.

Malaysian Defence Minister Najib Razak said the assurance was given by U.S. Under-Secretary for Defence Frank G. Wisner who called on him at his office here today.

Malaysia has offered to send 1,500 soldiers to Bosnia as part of an Islamic peacekeeping force under the auspices of the United Nations. Iran has offered to send 10,000 troops, Pakistan 3,000, Bangladesh 1,220 and Tunisia 1,000.

Najib told reporters after an hour-long meeting that Wisner, who had arrived Sunday, did not name the Islamic countries whose despatch of troops the U.S. might surely object to. He said the U.S. was willing to assist Malaysia in whatever way possible, including training and making available military equipment, to make the deployment of the peacekeeping troops possible. Najib said some countries might also object strongly to the participation of certain OIC (Organisation of Islamic Conference) countries in the enforcement of peace in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Malaysia would keep track of the debates at the Security Council on this matter, he said.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, who was here last week on an official visit, said his country would not object to the offer by the OIC to send troops so long as it was not linked to an Islamic crusade.

OIC member countries agreed recently to send their troops to Bosnia-Herzegovina as part of an Islamic peace-keeping force.

Najib said the UN Security Council was expected to give its reply on Malaysia's offer soon.

The minister said Malaysia would only send a minimum number of troops to ensure that the political objectives were attained. Najib also said Malaysian troops would only be deployed if other foreign troops remained there and that they should have adequate air cover. The troops must also be equipped with the necessary military and cold weather gear.

On the arms embargo in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Najib said the U.S. would stick to its stand that it should be lifted.

PRC Reiterates Willingness To Improve Economic Ties

BK2607075893 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0633 GMT 26 Jul 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, July 26 (OANA/BERNAMA)—Chairman of China's Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) Qiao Shi monday reiterated the republic's willingness to strengthen Beijing-Kuala Lumpur trade and economic relations. The proposed Chinese consulate in Kuching should be seen as a positive step forward in bilateral relations which Beijing described yesterday as entering a new chapter with the visit of Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohamed last May, Qiao told Malaysian Lower House of Parliament Speaker Mohammed Zahir Ismail here.

Qiao, here at the head of a 13-member delegation for a three-day official visit on the second leg of his tour of ASEAN nations, called on Mohammed Zahir at Parliament House.

Mohammed Zahir told reporters later that he was informed by the Chinese leader that since Dr Mahathir's visit, Malaysia-China joint venture pledges amounting to RM267 million [Malaysian ringgit] (U.S.$106.8 million) had been made.

China also agreed to allow Malaysia Airlines to increase its Kuala Lumpur-Beijing-Guangzhou flights from the present six a week to eight next year and 12 in 1996, he said.

Both Qiao and Mohammed Zahir hoped that more businessmen from the two countries would benefit from the increased air services.

Earlier, they held discussions lasting 45 minutes on a wide range of topics including a proposed visit to China by Malaysian parliamentarians sometime this year. Mohammed Zahir will be heading the delegation.

Qiao, who arrived here yesterday, was accompanied by his deputy Lin Ruo, NPC Secretary-General Cao Zhi [names as received] and Chinese Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Tang Jiaxuan.

Strain in Suharto-Mahathir Ties Denied

BK2507101393 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 18 Jul 93 p 19

[By Kalimullah Hassan]

[Text] Langkawi Island (Kedah)—Malaysia and Indonesia yesterday dismissed as speculation talk about a strain in relations between President Suharto and Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed and reaffirmed the need to enhance co-operation and improve existing relations.

Malaysian Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi told a news conference after bilateral talks between officials of the two countries that talk of a strain in relations was mere speculation.

"Sometimes, newspapers raise doubts about the state of relations between the two leaders," he said.

However, he said, the two-and-half-hour "four-eyes" meeting between Mr. Suharto and Dr. Mahathir yesterday showed that their relations remained good.

The two leaders had been scheduled to meet for two hours but extended the talks by 30 minutes.

A senior Malaysian official said after the meeting Mr Suharto told officials from both countries that there had been some speculation that his ties with Dr. Mahathir were strained because he had not visited Malaysia in two years.

"President Suharto dismissed such speculation and stressed the need to build up existing good relations and enhance co-operation," the official said.

Datuk Abdullah said Malaysia and Indonesia had reaffirmed their commitment to enhancing co-operation both at ministerial and official levels.

He said that it was in this spirit of co-operation and friendship that both countries had agreed to resolve outstanding issues such as the dispute over the islands of Ligitan and Sipadan off East Malaysia.

"We agreed that the dispute over the islands be resolved through negotiations without seeking outside intervention.

"We both understand that whatever problems arising from this dispute should not jeopardise the good relations between our two countries ," he said.

He added that a third meeting between Indonesian and Malaysian officials would be held later this year to discuss the 24-year dispute over the islands.

Malaysia and Indonesia also endorsed the Northern Growth triangle comprising the northern parts of Indonesia and Malaysia and South Thailand.

Datuk Abdullah said officials from the three countries would meet here tomorrow and Tuesday to draw up an agenda for the development of the triangle.

PLO Leader 'Arafat To Visit 28 Jul

BK2607060293 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0436 GMT 26 Jul 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, July 26 (OANA/BERNAMA)—Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasir 'Arafat is scheduled to arrive here on Wednesday for a three-day working visit to hold talks with Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohamed on bilateral matters.

A Malaysian Foreign Ministry statement said here Monday, the visit is at the invitation of the prime minister.

The PLO leader will lead a six-member delegation, including two ministers, for the visit, his second to Malaysia. His last visit to Malaysia was in March 1990.

While here, 'Arafat, who is president of the State of Palestine, would also discuss regional and international issues of mutual interest and concern to both countries with Dr Mahathir, the statement said.

He last met Dr Mahathir at the 10th Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) summit in Jakarta last year.

'Arafat will also have an audience with the Malaysian King Sultan Azlan Shah and attend a dinner in his honour hosted by Dr Mahathir.

Singapore

Russia's Kozyrev Welcomes Goh's Business Proposal

BK2507142193 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1100 GMT 25 Jul 93

[Text] Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, now in Singapore, said he was impressed by Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong's proposal to send a specialized team of businessmen to Singapore. He said the idea is a good one because Russia can make Singapore as a center for expanded economic relations with Southeast Asia. Mr. Kozyrev made the remarks during a 25-minute meeting with Foreign Minister Wong Kan Seng this afternoon. He also extended an invitation to Mr. Wong to visit Russia. After the meeting, Mr. Wong said he believed that Singapore and the region will benefit from closer economic link with Russia.

Cambodia

Khieu Samphan Responds on Inclusion in Government

BK2507041493 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 24 Jul 93

["Reply message" from Khieu Samphan, chairman of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea, to Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh and Hun Sen, cochairmen of the provisional government, dated 23 July—read by announcer]

[Text] To Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh, cochairman of the provisional government;

To His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen, cochairman of the provisional government:

I have received your letter. I would like to respond as follows with the following political view of the situation:

I. The Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK], like other national resistance forces and the entire Cambodian nation and people, is the victim of Vietnam's act of aggression that began on 25 December 1978. Vietnam has been committing aggression against and occupying Cambodia since 1979.

II. The PDK, like our other national resistance forces and the entire Cambodian people, loves peace and dares to fight to defend Cambodia's peace, independence, unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. For this reason, the PDK has dared to fight the Vietnamese aggressors for over 14 years to defend this cause. The Cambodian nation and people and the majority of the world's people have recognized this fact. Even our enemies have acknowledged this.

III. The ones who oppose Cambodia's national reconciliation, peace, independence, unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity are the Vietnamese aggressors, the puppets who are Vietnam's lackeys, and a number of their accomplices abroad. The Cambodian nation and people are aware of this as are the world's people and the United Nations.

The UN General Assembly, on more than 10 occasions, adopted resolutions opposing Vietnam's aggression and occupation of Cambodia. The United Nations has categorically refused to recognize Vietnam's puppets because they are the tools of the Vietnamese aggressors occupying Cambodia.

IV. The PDK stance on the implementation of the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement is also clear, that is, it advocates the rigorous implementation of every clause of the Paris agreement, particularly the main clauses. However, the Vietnamese aggressors and their puppets and allies inside and outside UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] have opposed this agreement from the beginning to the end. In fact, they opposed it right from the start.

V. After the UNTAC election, the results showed that the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party won the election. The PDK has assisted FUNCINPEC, a national resistance force, to proceed in accordance with the election results in conformity with the universal spirit and principles practiced in Cambodia and in the world. That is, assistance has been given to FUNCINPEC, the election winner, to organize a new government, a constituent assembly, and a national constitution, in order to set up a national government.

However, the Vietnamese aggressors, who have been committing aggression against and occupying Cambodia for over 14 years, Vietnam's puppets, and their allies have opposed the results of the UNTAC election. They have made efforts to split and to repeatedly meddle and have also pressured and forced the establishment of a two-headed government in Cambodia, namely a government with two prime ministers, a National Defense Ministry with two ministers, an Interior and Security Ministry with two ministers, and the adoption of a two-thirds majority principle in the constituent assembly for deciding all matters.

This principle runs counter to international principles and law. In the history of Cambodia and of the world, no one has ever witnessed such a two-headed government because nothing would get done. The two-headed government was formed to preserve the state authority of Vietnam's puppets, and through this to maintain a nearly 3-million-strong old and new Vietnamese aggressor force and allow it to continue committing aggression against and occupying Cambodia.

The fact is that FUNCINPEC, the party that won the election, has less than 100 people, namely 58 constituent assembly members and 29 ministers and deputy ministers among those in charge of state authority. According to UNTAC, 150,000 persons are needed to administer the country. The real force that is administering Cambodia is the state authority set up by Vietnam since 1979. This entire set-up has remained in place. Vietnamese forces still abound even in the prime minister's office. Ministries with FUNCINPEC members as ministers are still full of Vietnamese forces. All the military and police forces set up by the Vietnamese aggressors since 1979 remain intact.

VI. What kind of state authority is this? It is a state authority of the Vietnamese aggressors, who are occupying and administering everything in Cambodia, from top to bottom, from Phnom Penh down to the provinces, districts, communes, and villages, and in the military, police, civilian, political, economic, financial, educational sectors, and are imposing all kinds of taxes. It is a state authority that is constantly mistreating and oppressing the Cambodian people. It is a state authority that arrests and persecutes members of the FUNCINPEC party, which won the election. It is a state authority that arrests and persecutes the people who voted for FUNCINPEC.

The number of people fleeing the persecution by troops and police of the Vietnamese aggressors' state authority and staying in the PDK zone in every province nationwide has reached the tens of thousands. Tens of thousands more have also fled to other places. Hundreds of FUNCINPEC members have died; many hundreds more are in prison.

The Vietnamese guiding principle is to lull the top while the bottom is completely purged. Before the election people were threatened. After the election and the establishment of the two-headed government, they changed their label to national government in order to legitimize their activities against Democratic Kampuchea and the Cambodian people, to persecute members of FUNCINPEC—the election winning party, and to (?usurp power).

This has caused great hardship to the people. There is nothing to compare this with because the existing Vietnamese state authority plunders everything, from oxen and buffalo to cooking and domestic utensils, tools, and fishing traps. This has been done by the Vietnamese and their families.

VII. Therefore, it is not Democratic Kampuchea that is committing these acts. It is Vietnam's state authority that is robbing the people day and night. The people have asked Democratic Kampuchea for help and protection. In Democratic Kampuchean zones and (?semi-Democratic Kampuchean) zones, Democratic Kampuchea has been able to provide maximum protection to the people. In disputed areas, Democratic Kampuchea can only provide protection in accordance with its ability.

Therefore, Democratic Kampuchea is not the defendant but the plaintiff in this case. It is Vietnam's state authority—established, consolidated, and expanded by the Vietnamese aggressors since 1979—that is the defendant and the group that the people have already condemned and sentenced.

Furthermore, old Vietnamese aggressor forces remain the same. They continue to lead and administer all their puppets throughout Cambodia. They continue to lead and decide in each ministry and in the provisional government. Vietnam's troops and police, which are repressive forces, are everywhere. In Phnom Penh there are many thousands of Vietnamese troops and police. Vietnamese commanders, troops, and police even live in these three main areas: behind Vat Botum monastery, in the area of Vat Prayuvong monastery, and behind Chamka Mon [a ward in southern Phnom Penh].

As for the new Vietnamese aggressor force, it was nearly 3 million strong before the election. Since the election and the establishment of the two-headed government, Vietnamese nationals have still been coming in and no one is saying a word about it. The two-headed government has said nothing, just like UNTAC and its allies.

Vietnam's state authority in Phnom Penh and the provinces have made efforts to bring in more Vietnamese nationals. Just look at the Basak river, the entire Tonle Sap lake, the Tonle Sap at Phnom Penh, the lower Basak river, and in various provinces in eastern Cambodia to see how great the percentage of Vietnamese is. They account for no less than 75-95 percent of the entire population in these provinces in eastern Cambodia. The Vietnamese are not entering as ordinary people. They are armed and have come relying on the state authority that already exists in Phnom Penh, the provinces, and the districts. They have taken over land, villages, houses, lakes, and fishing lots, and have plundered the Cambodian people's fish, forests, and all sorts of property.

VIII. Despite all of this, the PDK still responded to the appeal by His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state, for national reconciliation. The PDK went to Phnom Penh and made a two-point proposal aimed at achieving national reconciliation, to which the Cambodian nation and people and the overwhelming majority of the world public have provided assistance and support.

The proposal calls for, first, the establishment of a quadripartite army—the nation's only army—that includes the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea; and second, an advisory role for the PDK's representative to link the process with the request that Cambodians discuss among themselves and solve national problems in accordance with the directives of HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk on Cambodia's national reconciliation, peace, independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

To this reasonable and correct proposal of the PDK, which is fully supported by the Cambodian people and the majority of the world's people, the Vietnamese aggressors have been opposed, and so have a large number of Vietnam's puppets and some bad elements among their allies. Just by looking at those who voice support and opposition on this issue, it is very clear to see who wants national reconciliation and peace, and who oppose it.

IX. For these above reasons, the PDK would like to propose the following:

1. What is the provisional government going to do about the PDK's two-point proposal?

2. It is proposed that a provisional government be set up by August 1993 along with administrative structures—military, police, and civilian—from Phnom Penh down to the village level in accordance with the 45-45-10 percent principle as advised by the prince head of state.

The PDK holds that only by proceeding this way can we Cambodians narrow our differences, widen our contributions, and increase our rapprochement in order to move toward national reconciliation and peace to restore our Cambodia's national independence, sovereignty, national unity, and territorial integrity.

X. The PDK does not accuse its fellow Cambodians. The Cambodian problem is not one among Cambodians. It is a question of Vietnam's invasion and occupation since 1979. On top of this, some major powers are currently interfering in this too.

The PDK holds that the Vietnamese aggressors and a number of foreigners are indeed interfering in Cambodia. However, we Cambodians should not adopt the views and policies and take directives from the Vietnamese aggressors and bad elements to instigate fellow Cambodians. We Cambodians should instead strive to bridge the gap and fill the cracks.

In brief, the PDK holds and firmly believes that only the national reconciliation plan of the prince head of state can lead to Cambodia's national reconciliation, peace, independence, unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

Prince Kromluong and Your Excellency, please accept my high consideration.

[Dated] 23 July 1993
[Signed] Khieu Samphan, PDK chairman

Sihanouk Rejects Talks With KR, Approves Meeting

BK2607053093 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 26 Jul 93

[Communique of Prince Sihanouk's Office; dated 26 July—read by announcer]

[Text] The Office of His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia would like present to the Provisional National Government of Cambodia [PNGC], Constituent Assembly, UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC], diplomatic corps in Cambodia, UN personnel, international organizations, and journalists a message from HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, which reads:

Allow me to state to the PNGC, the Constituent Assembly, the diplomatic corps in Cambodia, journalists, and so forth that Norodom Sihanouk definitely rejects the negotiation with the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK]/Khmer Rouge. However, the prince permits the PNGC cochairmen to hold negotiations with PDK if Prince Kromluong and his excellency the cochairman of the PNGC deem it possible to accept any discussion or negotiation to help resolve the problem of the division of Cambodia and peace.

The Office of HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the SNC, takes this opportunity to once again express its high respects for the PNGC, the Constituent Assembly, UNTAC, the diplomatic corps, UN personnel, international organizations, and journalists.

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 26 July 1993

DK Spokesman Condemns Move To Hand Over Weapons

BK2407013093 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 23 Jul 93

["Communique of the spokesman of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea concerning bad elements among allies in and outside UNTAC preparing to give weapons to Vietnam and its puppets in Phnom Penh to attack Cambodian resistance forces"—read by announcer]

[Text] There are reports saying that UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] will return weapons to Vietnam and Vietnam's puppets in Phnom Penh.

This is a maneuver by bad elements among allies in and outside UNTAC to provide aid in the form of weapons to Vietnam and its puppets to attack Cambodian resistance forces and to fuel and restart Vietnam's war of aggression in Cambodia.

The PDK [Party of Democratic Kampuchea] spokesman firmly condemns this criminal and dark act by bad elements among allies in and outside UNTAC. On this issue the PDK spokesman would like to specify the following facts:

I. The allies' bad elements use these words: Returning weapons to Cambodia's unified army. In fact, UNTAC itself witnesses and knows, as do the entire Cambodian nation and people and the entire world, that in Cambodia there is not yet a unified Cambodian national army and there is not yet a national government.

In the zone controlled by the Vietnamese aggressors and their puppets, there are only Vietnamese troops and police, and the troops and police of Vietnam's puppets. They are currently attacking, murdering, and persecuting members of the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party and the Cambodian people, including those who voted for FUNCINPEC, those who did not go to vote, and ordinary people.

The aforementioned government is a two-headed government; it cannot do anything. In fact, Vietnam still directs and decides all state affairs through its puppets. Therefore, the statement saying that weapons are being returned to Cambodia's unified army cannot fool anyone.

II. The Cambodian nation and people, like the world in general, do know and have seen that UNTAC has never been able to disarm Vietnam's puppets. Vietnam's puppets have never handed over weapons to UNTAC, except old weapons that are not in working order. So, from where did the allies in and outside UNTAC bring weapons to turn over to Vietnam and its puppets?

As some reports have disclosed, the weapons to be handed over to Vietnam and its puppets comprise heavy and automatic weapons, and so on. The fact is that bad elements among the allies are maneuvering to provide aid in the form of weapons to Vietnam and its puppets to attack Cambodian national resistance forces, including Democratic Kampuchea.

III. People still remember that bad elements among the allies are still striving to get $10 million a month to pay the troops and policemen of Vietnam and its puppets. The bad elements have not yet been able to gather the money, however, because of opposition by Cambodian national forces and the Cambodian people. Many countries in the rgion and the world also oppose this.

IV. So national and international opinions clearly realize that bad elements among the allies are busily cooperating with Vietnam and its puppets to implement the following dark plan:

A. To cooperate with Vietnam and its puppets to resist and oppose the implementation of procedure in accordance with the results of the UNTAC-organized election by opposing and preventing FUNCINPEC, the winning party in the election, from organizing a government. Pressure has been applied forcing the establishment of a two-headed government and deceitfully labelling it as a national government in an attempt to dupe the Cambodian nation and people and the world and to cover up the fact that the current state authority in Cambodia remains Vietnam's state authority, from top to bottom.

B. To resist and oppose the national reconciliation plan of His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state.

C. To make preparations to provide aid in the form of money and weapons to Vietnam and its puppets and use the state authority, troops, and police of Vietnam and its puppets to attack Cambodian national resistance forces, including Democratic Kampuchea.

These are preparations to rekindle Vietnam's war of aggression in Cambodia, which creates a serious threat to peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

V. The PDK would like to appeal to peace and justice-loving countries in the region and the world over to check in a timely manner the criminal act by the bad elements among allies in and outside UNTAC.

VI. The Cambodian nation and people, like the Cambodian national resistance forces, including Democratic Kampuchea, have been victims of Vietnam's war of aggression in Cambodia since 25 December 1978. The Cambodian nation and people, like Democratic Kampuchea, love peace and their independence, unity, and territorial integrity. This is why the Cambodian nation and people and Democratic Kampuchea have dared to struggle for over 14 years against Vietnam's war of aggression.

If bad elements among allies have come to cooperate with Vietnam to continue fueling the latter's war of aggression, they are fully responsible for their criminal act.

[Dated] 23 July 1993

[Signed] PDK spokesman

Aid Agreement Signed With France 21 Jul

BK2307082393 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 22 Jul 93

[Text] On the afternoon of 21 July, Prince Norodom Sirivut, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation of the Provisional National Government of Cambodia [PNGC], and (Hubert Dunain), representative of the French Development Fund, signed a protocol to the agreement concerning the special cooperation clause to provide French Government aid to Cambodia.

This protocol deals with the French Development Fund's agent opening an office in Phnom Penh. The agent's task is to draft plans to develop Cambodia in cooperation with relevant institutions. The opening of the French Development Fund office is the start of the French Government's emergency aid to Cambodia, involving 20 million francs for the sectors of agriculture, the promotion of small production in rural areas, and a number of other tasks. The agent of the French Development Fund is the direct representative of the French Government's fund for aid to Cambodia.

On this occasion, Prince Norodom Sirivut said this is evidence of a new step in the Cambodian-French cooperation at a new turn in the building of the Cambodian economy.

On behalf of the prince head of state, the PNGC, and the Cambodian people, the prince expressed profound thanks to the French Government and people for their assistance to restore peace in Cambodia, particularly the efforts to push for a Cambodian peace agreement on 23 October 1991.

Official, French Attache Discuss Aid

BK2407080193 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 23 Jul 93

[Text] His Excellency [H.E.] General Ke Kimyan, chief of staff of the Cambodian National Army [CNA], received Colonel (Francois Torres), military attache of the French Embassy in Cambodia, and Colonel (Sinateur), chief of the French army unit of UNTAC's [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] Information Department on 22 July at the office of international relations.

The talks focused on the immediate tasks related to the supply of French military aid to the CNA.

H.E. General Ke Kimyan informed the guests about the CNA's needs, particularly the immediate supply of military equipment and French army technicians in various fields—such as the air force, navy, engineering, light armored vehicles, military police, logistics, radio communication, transport, artillery structures, and training—and also experts to assist in the proper restructing of the CNA. H.E. General Chief of Staff also requested France to assist the CNA concretely and quickly.

On this occasion, Colonel (Francois Torres) pledged to strive to further contact the CNA in order to understand in detail the CNA's needs and to convey these needs to France and ask for speedy French assistance for Cambodia. Colonel (Francois Torres) also disclosed that a delegation led by a French army general will visit Cambodia in the near future.

The meeting ended in a most cordial and sincere atmosphere.

Ranariddh Discusses Planned Visit With SRV Envoy

BK2507084793 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh, cochairman of the Provisional National Government of Cambodia [PNGC], received and held talks with His Excellency [H.E.] Tran Huy Chuong, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the SRV to Cambodia, on 23 July. The talks focused on the preparations and the plan for the official visit by the PNGC cochairmen, namely Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh and H.E. Hun Sen, to the SRV in the near future.

H.E. Tran Huy Chuong said that in accordance with the joint communique of His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk and the Vietnamese Foreign Minister during the latter's visit to Cambodia on 25 January 1992, the Vietnamese Government has invited the PNGC cochairmen for an official visit in order to discuss the consolidation of friendly relations between the two neighboring countries.

Meets Acting PRC Charge d'Affaires

BK2407133293 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh, cochairman of the Provisional National Government of Cambodia, met and held talks on 23 July with (Yang Zhaojong), acting charge d'affaires of the PRC Embassy in Cambodia. They discussed China's $10 million aid plan for the rehabilitation of Cambodia.

(Yang Zhaojong) stressed that the PRC Government has given $10 million to the Cambodian people for use in building agricultural centers, digging water wells, developing hospitals, (?buying medicine and assisting) medical personnel.

Receives Belgian Envoy, Views Situation

BK2307091193 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 22 Jul 93

[Text] Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh, cochairman of the Provisional National Government of Cambodia [PNGC], recently received for cordial talks Jean-Maurice Natalis, Belgian ambassador to Cambodia.

Jean-Maurice Natalis congratulated the PGNC and the prince kromluong for assuming the post of cochairman of the new government. Natalis specified that from 1 July, Belgium will be the roving chairman of the European Community and that Belgium will consider further bilateral relations and cooperation with Cambodia. The Belgian Government recently contributed assistance to Cambodia on human rights, demining, training, and so on.

The prince kromluong highly praised the view of Jean-Maurice Natalis, which is significant for the new government. Concerning the Cambodian situation, the prince kromluong said the election results show that the Cambodian people have expressed their wisdom, and in the PGNC work leaders have reached an agreement on national reconciliation. The prince kromluong said there is no winner and no loser. Everyone has overcome obstacles to build the country. Belgium, as part of the EC, should play a major role in assisting Cambodia.

The prince kromluong further said that security in the country is very important. The primary task of the National Army is to ensure security in the country, defend the borders, and build the country. Concerning the economic sector, Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh said that Cambodia is short of money. Efforts should be made to find more income. Reorganization should be carried out in many sectors, for example water, electricity, cadre training, improvement courses, price stability to prevent inflation, urbanism, upgrading airports, and so on. As for the Khmer Rouge, the new government remains open to them, but there will be conditions. Dealing with the role of the United Nations in Cambodia, the prince kromluong said that the role of UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] in particular should be appreciated, and so should the Cambodian people's wisdom, particularly the precious deeds of the prince head of state.

Finally, the prince kromluong called on the Belgian Government to invest in Cambodia and to provide programs and planned aid to Cambodia. The talks were held in an atmosphere of joy, friendship, and mutual understanding.

Defense Cochairmen Thank Lao Counterpart

BK2407134993 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] On 24 July, Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh and His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen, Defense Ministry cochairmen of the Provisional National Government of Cambodia [PNGC], sent a message of thanks to H.E. Lieutenant General Choummali Sai-Gnason, Lao national defense minister. The message read:

Beloved minister: On behalf of the Defense Ministry and PNGC Government and in our own names, we would like to express sincere thanks to you for greeting us on our appointments as PNGC national defense cochairmen.

Through this message, we would like to express deep gratitude to the Lao Government and people for their active contributions to the realization of the Cambodian people's aspiration and to Cambodia's peace and national reconciliation.

We are very proud to see the constant growth of our two countries' traditional bond of relations and cooperation.

We would like to affirm that under the clear-sighted leadership of His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, we will do everything possible to maintain and develop the bond of friendship, solidarity, and cooperation between our two armies in the cause of peace and freedom in Indochina and Southeast Asia.

Your Excellency, please accept our highest regards.

Polish Foreign Ministry Delegation To Visit

BK2407063393 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0354 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] Phnom Penh 24 Jul (SPK)—A delegation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland, led by its deputy minister Andrezej Ananicz, will pay a visit to Cambodia from 25 to 27 July, coming from Bangkok.

According to the planned program, the delegation will be received by Hun Sen, cochairman of the Provisional National Government of Cambodia. Andrezej Ananicz will also hold talks with Cambodia's minister and deputy minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, Prince Norodom Sirivut and Uch Kim-an.

The delegation will visit Polish Blue Berets [UN personnel] and UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia]. It will also visit the national museum and the silver pagoda.

Deputy Ministers Visit Troops West of Phnom Penh

BK2407071193 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 23 Jul 93

[Text] A delegation of the Ministry of National Defense led by Deputy Defense Ministers His Excellency [H.E.] General Tie Banh and H.E. Gen. Tea Chamrat, and many high-ranking officers of the ministry, visited senior and junior officers and troops of the Cambodian National Army [CNA] west of Phnom Penh on 21 July.

Speaking on this occasion, Major General Chan Phirun, on behalf of the CNA's Unit 290 informed the delegation about the procedures and work being carried out by the unit, such as unit building, production, and assistance to the local population. Dealing with discipline and order among the troops, the general said that senior and junior officers and men are constantly present at their posts and carry out their respective tasks on a timely basis; they also correctly adhere to the army's discipline.

On this occasion, H.E. Gen. Tie Banh and H.E. Gen. Tea Chamrat talked to officers and men in order to understand their living conditions.

Government Circular on National Anthem Observance

BK2307092793 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 22 Jul 93

["Circular No. 07 of the Provisional National Government of Cambodia"—read by announcer]

[Text] The cochairmen of the Provisional National Government of Cambodia [PNGC] would like to inform excellency ministers and governors of provinces and municipalities nationwide:

Subject: Observance of the national anthem

Reference: Circular dated 2 July 1993 on the name of the country, national flag, national anthem, and royal portrait

With the aim of consolidating and expanding national independence and great national union, combined with consolidating and expanding the patriotic conscience and love for the motherland under the clear-sighted leadership of the revered prince father, the PNGC would like to give the following directive to ministries, establishments, provinces, and municipalities nationwide:

1. All ministries, establishments, and provinces—and municipalities, services, and units under their jurisdiction—and hospitals and educational institutions nationwide should observe the national anthem at 0700 on every working day. Educational establishments in particular should observe the national anthem twice daily, in the morning before school starts and in the afternoon at the end of class.

2. State and private festival halls, and movie and video halls nationwide should observe the national anthem by standing in reverence of the portrait of His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state, while the Nokoreach national anthem is being played before the start of the performance or the movie.

3. The Ministry of Information and Press should broadcast the Nokoreach national anthem on the radio every morning at 0700 and at the end of the radio transmission. For television, before the start of the program and at the end of the transmission, the Nokoreach national anthem should also be aired.

Furthermore, the Ministry of Information and Press should publish the meaning and the score of the Nokoreach tune for dissemination nationwide.

Upon receiving this circular, excellency ministers, head of institutions, and governors of provinces and municipalities should implement it starting from the day it is signed.

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 21 July 1993
[Signed] PNGC cochairmen
Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh
Hun Sen

Government Communique Bans Illegal Recruitment

BK2307154193 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 23 Jul 93

["Communique of the Provisional National Government of Cambodia;" dated 23 July—read by announcer]

[Text] Local authorities in various districts, provinces, and cities have taken notice of misleading propaganda conducted by certain people about recruitment of troops, policemen, and civil servants that has created confusion, affecting the people's will. And in some areas, these people have gone as far as carrying out propaganda about the appointment of state authorities at the district and communal levels as well.

If the aforementioned phenomena is allowed to continue, it will hoodwink the general public into misunderstanding the two-fold state authorities and the two-fold Armed Forces.

In the spirit of the Paris Accord and according to the laws still in force, the state authorities or Armed Forces, which are former forces of the State of Cambodia, FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia], or the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, are the legitimate forces that have now become the forces of the Provisional National Government of Cambodia [PNGC] and the Cambodian National Armed Forces [CNAF]. Forces, both military and civilian, apart from these are unlawful elements. This is because since its establishment, the PNGC—which emerged from the free and fair elections in May, which was endowed with the Constituent Assembly's vote of confidence on 1 July 1993, and which was appointed by a royal decree signed by His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia, on 2 July 1993—is the only national institution that has the rights and power to select officials, both civilian and military. Apart from the legitimate government, that is the PNGC, no political organization or individual is entitled to recruit civilian or military officials.

With reference to the aforementioned points, the PNGC has issued this communique categorically banning this malpractice. Any political organization or any individual acting against this communique will be punished according to the effective law.

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 23 July 1993
[Signed] Cochairmen of the PNGC

Government Orders Afternoon Off for Workers

BK2607062493 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 23 Jul 93

[Order of the Provisional National Government of Cambodia, No. 03, on half day off on Saturday; dated 21 July—read by announcer]

[Text] With reference to the decree of His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodia's head of state, dated 2 July 1993,

With reference to the proposal of the co-ministers in charge of the cabinet office No. 10, dated 16 July 193,

The Provisional National Government of Cambodia [PNGC] has decided that:

Article 1—Civil servants, employees, and state workers will have Saturday afternoon off from work.

Article 2—The co-ministers in charge of the cabinet office, all ministers, heads of establishments, and governors of all provinces and municipalities should implement this order from the day it is signed.

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 21 July 1993
[Signed] PNGC Cochairmen
Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh
Hun Sen

KR Activities in Kompong Thom, Siem Reap Reported

BK2607074793 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 23 Jul 93

[Text] Military sources in Kompong Thom Province say that on 20 July at about 0630, Khmer Rouge troops from Division 616 led by (Thu Chin) and (Phai Nen), armed with two DK-82's and one 12.7-mm assault machinegun, and two 82-mm mortars, fired hundreds of shells to put pressure on the position of the Cambodian National Army [CNA] in Sangkum village. Along with this support fire, the Khmer Rouge used between 120 and 130 troops, divided into three prongs, to attack the above position. In their duty to defend their area, the CNA counterattacked until 1000 before calm returned to this battlefield. As a result, the CNA fully maintained their position. Furthermore, two Khmer Rouge soldiers were killed on the battlefield and two others were seriously wounded by mines. Three more soldiers were wounded and taken back by their colleagues when they fled back for their lives in the retreat. Apart from this, the CNA seized a number of weapons and some war materiel. As for the CNA troops, one soldier was killed and another wounded.

Military sources in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province say that also on 20 July, Khmer Rouge troops positioned an 85-mm artillery piece in (Tang Nhanh) and fired 32 shells on Sot Nikum District seat; however, there was no noticeable damage.

Also on the same day, Khmer Rouge troops fired 10 H-107 rockets into Chikreng District. Sources in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province also say that last week the Khmer Rouge intensified the firing of artillery shells and increased attacks in some districts along the national route aimed at cutting off National Route 6.

According to the same sources, on 15 July at 0900, between 100 and 140 Khmer Rouge soldiers from Division 912 launched attacks against the positions of the CNA along National Route 231 linking Puok and Angkor Chum Districts, at Yeang Kdeirun village. Three CNA soldiers were killed and two others were wounded; two weapons were lost; and two school buildings burned.

On 16 July, Khmer Rouge troops from the same division brought a truckload of ammunition to the area east of Nokorpheas commune in Angkor Chum District with the aim of putting pressure on this locality.

In Sot Nikom District, about 100 Khmer Rouge troops from Division 980 led by (Muon), stationed in Samraong and Khnat Pou communes, used about 40 soldiers to rob public property in (Cheam Sangke) commune.

In Chikreng District, on 15 July at 1730, about 30 Khmer Rouge soldiers attacked the CNA position in Pongro commune. The attack lasted for an hour; however, the CNA troops firmly defended their position and killed a Khmer Rouge soldier on the battlefield.

On 16 July, the same Khmer Rouge troops robbed many families in Thnal Leuk village, Spean Thnaot commune. On the same day, they fired 20 DK-75 shells into Pongro Kraom village and Chikreng District seat. However, there were no casualties.

The Khmer Rouge are currently gathering about 300 of their troops in the area above Pongro Kraom village with the aim of attacking and controlling National Route 6, and seizing the Pongro Kraom position.

VGNUFC Cites Foreign Minister on KR Role

BK2507060093 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] On 23 July, Prince Norodom Sirivut, foreign minister of the Cambodian provisional government and special guest of ASEAN, led a delegation to take part in the annual meeting of the ASEAN foreign ministers in Singapore.

In Singapore, the prince told reporters: We want national reconciliation among all Cambodians. Prince Norodom Sirivut further stressed that Democratic Kampuchea is also Cambodian. Democratic Kampuchea should also take part in the national reconciliation. The prince added: I am very happy that the ASEAN countries have adopted a correct stance to allow the Cambodian people to achieve national reconciliation by themselves.

This statement by Prince Norodom Sirivut is fully in conformity with the national reconciliation plan of His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state, which is persistently assisted and supported by the Cambodian nation and people inside and outside the country and peace- and justice-loving countries the world over.

French Communique Supports Sihanouk Efforts, KR Role

BK2507055493 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] On 20 July, the French Embassy in Cambodia issued a communique in Phnom Penh affirming France's position on national reconciliation in Cambodia. Here is the essence of this communique:

France assists and supports the efforts of His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state, to achieve national reconciliation.

The communique further adds: The spokesman of the French Foreign Ministry recently reaffirmed France's position that the Cambodian peace plan has a correct and reasonable goal of achieving national reconciliation and supports its plan to include the Democratic Kampuchea side.

'Puppet' Troops Reportedly Mutiny, Kill Officer

BK2407015693 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 23 Jul 93

[Excerpt] Reports from Samraong District in Oddar Meanchey Province say that on 18 July, 23 puppet soldiers mutinied, opening fire and lobbying grenades at the command post of Vietnam and its puppets in Samraong. A Vietnamese major was killed and a puppet lieutenant colonel and a number of others were wounded.

These 23 compatriots, former puppet soldiers, said that they did this because they are angry with the Vietnamese aggressors and puppet leaders. [passage omitted]

Indonesia

G-7 Strategy To Spur Economic Growth Welcomed

BK2507100793 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 12 Jul 93 p 4

[Editorial: "G-7's Answer To NAM Leader"]

[Text] People who have the chance to scan the six-page Economic Communique issued at the end of the summit of the Group of Seven [G-7] industrialized countries in Tokyo over the weekend might be disappointed that not a single word in the declaration refers to the Non-Aligned Movement [NAM] and the meeting between the G-7's Chairman, Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, and NAM's Chairman, President Suharto, of Indonesia on the eve of the summit.

But a further perusing of the document would show that the leaders of the seven economic powers did take into serious account many of the suggestions conveyed, through Miyazawa, by the NAM chief, though without specifically referring to NAM as a group. Several G-7 countries apparently remain wary of the organization. However, as the old adage says: "What is in a name anyway?" After all NAM, with its 108 members, is synonymous with the club of developing countries which in the United Nations system is called the Group of 77, which now encompasses 130 developing nations. Hence, only 22 developing countries have not joined NAM.

The communique contains an 11-paragraph special section on developing countries which addresses many of the points of view, observations and suggestions conveyed by NAM Chairman Suharto. The gist of Suharto's 12-page Invitation to Dialog to the G-7 leaders is: The fate and fortunes of the developed world of the North and the developing nations of the South are inextricably intertwined so that both are required to cooperate in creating a conducive global environment for sustainable development. In this context the North and South should revive constructive dialogs on the pressing problems of the South such as huge debts, wildly-fluctuating prices for primary commodities, trade protectionism and the environment.

The G-7 leaders did not give a definite answer to the call for the revival of North-South communication—an immediate reply actually was not expected as further talks are required to arrange the proper mechanism—but did share many of the points of view raised by Suharto. The declaration welcomes the initiatives taken by the developing countries to establish a more constructive partnership and dialogs on issues of mutual interests to both the developed and developing nations.

The communique also recognizes that sustainable development in the developing countries is essential for the peace and prosperity of the world. This awareness is sensible indeed. The global economic inter-dependence does show that the developed nations increasingly depend on the economic success in the developing countries, not only in the matter of export markets and investments, but also for their stability and peace. In this case, we are reminded of last week's UN report which said that last year alone 100 million people around the world were migrants in search of better jobs or fleeing from persecution, violence and natural calamities. Obviously, better living conditions in the developing nations would stem the flow of economic refugees to the developed world. In this context, the G-7 new three-pronged strategy to spur their economic growth should also be welcomed as its outcome will directly benefit the developing countries in terms of larger export markets and larger budgetary allocations for official development aid.

It is also most encouraging that the G-7 countries reaffirmed their determination to abolish trade protectionism and to push ahead for a successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations which is now running almost three years behind schedule. Various international agencies have estimated that the developing countries lose about US$100 billion a year in export earnings as a result of market barriers in industrialized countries. This amount is almost twice the official development assistance that the developed countries provide each year to the developing nations.

NAM Chairman Suharto's lobbying in Tokyo and the painstaking efforts by Japanese Prime Minister

Miyazawa to enable Suharto to convey the message of the developing countries to the club of the developed world should therefore be greatly appreciated as a contribution to enhancing global economic cooperation and consequently global stability and peace.

Suharto Receives Japanese Aid Official

BK2607084393 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0700 GMT 26 Jul 93

[Text] Akira Nishigaki, chairman of Japan's Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund, says that despite the political changes in his country, Japan's economic assistance to Indonesia remains unchanged. Speaking to reporters after paying a courtesy call on President Suharto at the Merdeka Palace this morning, Akira Nishigaki said Indonesia is one of the largest recipients of economic assistance disbursed by his agency, which gives aid to 76 countries.

Meanwhile, Ginanjar Kartasasmita, state minister for national development planning, stressed the importance of Japan's role in Indonesian national development. Ginanjar also discussed the head of state's briefing of his Japanese guest on Indonesia's development.

[Begin Ginanjar recording] The president briefed Mr. Nishigaki on the results of development achieved thus far. He also said that Mr. Nishigaki's visit is very timely because we are currently drafting the next sixth Five-Year Development Plan. Apart from the results of development, the head of state also mentioned problems faced by the country and the government's programs to promote income distribution and combat poverty. In this connection, the president expressed the hope that Japan's economic assistance could be increased so as to support the government programs mentioned earlier. [end recording]

Suharto Sees 'No Arms Race' in Southeast Asia

BK2407065493 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] President Suharto has made it clear that there will be no arms race in Southeast Asia. The president made the remarks this morning during the 1993 graduation ceremony for new officers of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia on the grounds of Jakarta's Merdeka Palace. According to President Suharto, Southeast Asian nations have agreed to have a mutual understanding.

[Begin Suharto recording] We do feel secure and at ease because of the strong national resilience of our neighboring countries. The rehabilitation and development of military strength we are now implementing, as well as that implemented by our neighboring countries, is part of our effort to create a regional resilience in this region. There is no arms race and will be none; there is no need for an arms race in this region. Southeast Asian nations have long agreed to turn the region into a zone of peace, freedom, and neutrality based on national prosperity, friendship, and mutual understanding. [end recording]

The 1993 graduation ceremony was marked by the pinning of the second lieutenant insignia on the best graduating officer from the three armed services and the Republic of Indonesia Police, respectively, and the swearing in of 736 graduates of the Academy of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia, who became cadets in 1990. The solemn ceremony was also attended by [words indistinct] ministers of the Sixth Development Cabinet; foreign military attaches; Wahono, speaker of the House of Representatives and chairman of the People's Consultative Assembly; and Retired General Abdul Haris Nasution, former chairman of the Provisional People's Consultative Assembly.

Jakarta Urges Postponement of Extraordinary OPEC Meet

BK2407094293 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] Indonesia has called for the postponement of an extraordinary OPEC ministerial meeting scheduled to be held in Vienna on 28 July [words indistinct] the UN embargo on Iraq's oil exports. Faisal Abda'u, president director of Pertamina [State Oil and Gas Corporation], said a current decline in world oil prices is largely due to Iraq's plan to release oil into the international market. Indonesia believes the issue of the lifting of the UN embargo on Iraq's oil exports remains unclear. Thus, it is feared that such a meeting will instead affect OPEC's credibility.

Jakarta Denies Report on Possible Ties With Israel

BK2307124893 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 23 Jul 93

[Text] The Indonesian Government has never thought of the possibility of establishing diplomatic relations with Israel. Thus, a news report that an Israeli diplomat and a number of Israeli businessmen had visited Jakarta to explore the establishment of diplomatic relations is untrue. A press release of the Foreign Information Directorate of the Department of Foreign Affairs said today that the department needed to issue the denial to prevent the general public from being influenced by the tendentious news report, which was intended to discredit the Indonesian Government. The news report which originated from HA'ARETZ, an Israeli newspaper published in Jerusalem, and was quoted by newspapers in the capital city in their editions today was devoid of facts, and the Department of Foreign Affairs was not aware of the reported visits to Jakarta by the Israeli diplomat and businessmen.

Laos

Memorandum on Lao-Thai Border Cooperation

BK2507121593 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] The Lao Ministry of Interior delegation led by His Excellency [H.E.] Major General [Maj. Gen.] A-sang Laoli, minister of interior of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], paid an official friendship visit to the Kingdom of Thailand from 15 to 22 July at the invitation of Thai Interior Minister H.E. General Chawalit Yongchaiyut.

On this occasion, the Lao Interior Ministry delegation led by H.E. Maj. Gen. A-sang Laoli, interior minister of the LPDR, and the Thai Interior Ministry delegation headed by H.E. Gen. Chawalit Yongchaiyut, Thai interior minister, held a consultative meeting and thereby signed a memorandum on the safeguarding of peace and order along the Lao-Thai and Thai-Lao border all the way from north to south. The main content of the memorandum is as follows:

1. Safeguarding peace and order along the common border. Both sides agreed to encourage Lao and Thai provincial governors, chiefs of provincial public security commands, and the police chiefs of the provinces sharing the borderline to hold regular meetings with each other. The practice is aimed at promoting their good understanding and cooperation so that various problems, which may arise along the border, can be successfully solved at the local levels. Apart from meetings between provincial-level border peacekeeping cooperation committees, the Lao and Thai delegations agreed to cooperate in the prevention and suppression of terrorist movements and illegal acts along the Lao-Thai border. These include rebellious acts against the Lao Government, border crime, illegal border-crossing, luring girls and women into labor and prostitution, and smuggling of contraband and goods for tax evasion. The two sides agreed to notify each other and exchange information about the offenders, who sneak across the border into another territory, so that officials of that country can keep track of them and arrest them.

2. The protection of goods transportation and the Lao-Thai Friendship Bridge. Both sides concurred that the improved Lao-Thai economic relations have resulted in a steady increase in the quantity of goods exported and imported through their various border checkpoints. Therefore, both sides deemed it necessary to set more stringent measures to control passengers buses and transportation of goods. Both sides regard the Thai-Lao Friendship Bridge across the Mekong River as the first historic bridge linking the two countries and also as the symbol of their friendship. Therefore, they should protect it together by strictly following the set rules and regulations on the protection of the bridge.

3. Providing conveniences and safety for travellers into each country. Both sides agreed that the investment in tourism helps promote the economy and income of both countries. Therefore they should more efficiently cooperate with each other in providing convenience and safety for travellers into each country, especially the investors and tourists. They agreed that conveniences and safety should be given to the people from each country who honestly earn their livings, study, perform duties, or do some business in another country. At the same time, strict measures should be imposed against the persons who commit illegal acts. For Lao and Thai aliens living in another country, including those facing legal action, punishment, arrest, or imprisonment, the two sides will further exchange lists of their names.

4. Narcotics control and suppression. Both sides agreed that narcotics is a threat to the society and security of the two countries, the region, and the world. Therefore, all countries must seriously cooperate with each other in the prevention and suppression of narcotics. They should render support to the triangular cooperation between Laos, Thailand, and Burma, as well as to various organizations to eradicate the growing of narcotic plants and to prevent and suppress the production and trafficking of narcotics along the border in a more effective manner. To reach this goal, measures on joint operations will be further worked out.

5. Cooperation concerning Lao refugees. Both sides expressed their support to the trilateral agreement made by Laos, Thailand, and the United Nations on the plans for periodical repatriation of Lao refugees in Thailand. The agreement was made in conformity with a plan previously set in the Laotian Province of Luang Prabang in June 1991 and the Lao-Thai agreement reached in Phatthaya City, Chon Buri Province, Thailand, on 13 March 1989. While implementing the set plans, both sides will cooperate in preventing the refugee camps from being used by individuals or groups of ill-wishers for Lao-Thai brotherly relations as places to hide in order to cause disturbances in the two countries. Both sides will provide facilities for the repatration of Lao refugees by requesting donor countries to provide adequate financial support to the Lao and Thai Governments for use in the repatriation of Lao refugees to their homeland and in the building of socioeconomic bases in the settlement areas the Lao Government prepares for repatriates.

6. Assistance in technical equipment, training, and observation. Both sides agreed in principle to assist each other in short-term technical training, survey, and observation. They agreed to exchange knowledge and technical experiences in the usage of communications equipment and other modern equipment in survey work. This will be done through short-term training courses and work observation tours. Both sides agreed to supply each other with useful data and information for the prevention and suppression of illegal acts, such as crime and narcotics trading.

During the stay in Thailand, the Lao interior minister and his entourage also visited agricultural production and cultivation bases and livestock farms in Phuket and Chiang Mai Provinces—the provinces of socioeconomic importance and major tourist sites of the country.

Further, the Lao Interior Ministry delegation also visited the Royal Thai Police Academy in Sam Phran District, Nakhon Pathom Province; called on the director general of the Police Department, the Interior Ministry of the Kingdom of Thailand; and visited a number of other important places. Wherever the Lao visitors went, they were warmly welcomed by provincial governors and all local Thai authorities and police officers and men.

The Lao Interior Ministry delegation returned home on 22 July, after completing its visit to the Kingdom of Thailand.

Russian Envoy Calls on Mayor of Vientiane

BK2307093693 Vientiane KPL in English 0857 GMT 23 Jul 93

[Text] Vientiane, July 23 (KPL)—Mr. Boun-gnang Volachit, Vientiane prefecture party secretary and mayor of Vientiane capital, yesterday afternoon met with the new ambassador of Russia, Mr. Fedorov Vladimir Parlovik.

Apart from congratulating the new ambassador, the Vientiane mayor hoped that the Lao-Russian relations would be continually developed. Mr. B. Volachit also informed his guest about recent development efforts taking place in Vientiane town.

Cambodian Leaders To Visit 28-31 Jul

BK2507060293 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 25 Jul 93

["Release" issued by the Prime Minister's Office dated 25 July]

[Text] In response to an invitation of His Excellency [H.E.] Khamtai Siphandon, prime minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], Samdech Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh and H.E. Hun Sen, cochairmen of the provisional national government of Cambodia, will pay an official friendship visit to the LPDR from 28 to 31 July.

Chinese Artist Troupe Performs in Luang Namtha

BK2307094893 Vientiane KPL in English 0900 GMT 23 Jul 93

[Text] Vientiane, July 23 (KPL)—The artist troup of Yunnan's Sib-song Panna region, on July 16-19, toured the northern Luang Namtha Province of Laos.

The performance took place in conjunction with the 38th anniversary of the Lao Women's Union.

The 12 Lu artists presented well received items included folk songs and traditional dances. Most of the inhabitants of Luang Namtha are also Lu ethnic. Lu ethnic group is one of the sub-groups of Tai like Thai and Lao.

Philippines

Ramos Approves Marcos Burial Arrangements

HK2607054493 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 26 Jul 93

[Text] President Fidel Ramos has approved the plan submitted by Congressman Roque Ablan Jr. for the burial of former President Marcos' remains. Under the approved plan, the remains of the former president is scheduled to be brought from Honolulu directly to Laoag City, Ilocos Norte between 4 and 6 September. The body will be buried in Batac, Ilocos Norte, on 11 September, the former president's birthday.

With the plan, the Marcos family also sent a request for simple funeral rights for the former president. The Marcos family earlier announced that the former president's remains will be buried above ground and will be placed near the remains of Dona Josefa Edralin Marcos [the mother of former President Marcos] and Imee Marcos-Manotoc's stillborn baby. Congressman Ablan, along with other congressmen from the Ilocos region, will be responsible for bringing the former president's body back to the country.

$12 Million Trade Surplus Registered With PRC

HK2607033593 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 26 Jul 93 p 11

[by Lorelei de Belen]

[Text] For the first time in years, trade with the People's Republic of China (PROC) has tipped in the country's favor, with the Philippines enjoying a $12-million surplus for the first three months.

This was revealed by the Minister of the State Commission for Restructuring Economic System Li Tieying who met with President Ramos and some government officials last week.

The two groups discussed ways of strengthening bilateral relations.

Statistics furnished by the PROC delegation showed total trade between the Philippines and China reached $85.5 million from January to March this year.

Philippine exports accounted for $48.8 million and PROC's $36 million, showing a trade surplus of $12 million in favor of the Philippines.

Li said in a press briefing that this was spurred largely by major reforms the PROC government has undertaken which opened up the market for imported goods, including those from the Philippines.

China's economic reforms allowed private entities to directly import goods. Previously, this was done only through the government, Li said.

Also, the PROC last year reduced its tariff rates on 3,371 product lines from 40% to 15% and eliminated the import adjustments tax, on top of the import duties.

The reforms, Li said, coupled with the rapidly increasing demand of the expanding Chinese market, should provide the Philippines with more opportunities to export goods there.

He said as long as the export supply was stable and the product quality guaranteed that local products would find a good market in China.

The Philippines and China forged a trade protocol agreement during President Ramos' state visit to China early this year.

NUC Rejects Proposed Cease-Fire With Communists

HK2207050793 Manila MANILA STANDARD in English 22 Jul 93 p 3

[Report by Marichua A. Villanueva]

[Text] Executive Secretary Teofisto Guingona Jr. yesterday said there is no need for the government to declare a ceasefire agreement with communist rebels once the new amnesty grant is submitted by President Ramos for Congress immediate concurrence.

Guingona said such a proposed 60-day ceasefire as suggested by Sorsogon Congressman Bonifacio Gillego was set aside by the National Unification Commission (NUC) during its meeting with the President and leaders of Congress at the Palace last Tuesday.

In his maiden press conference yesterday with the Palace media, Guingona echoed the position of the government that such a proposed ceasefire is useless anyway once the general amnesty grant becomes "operative" upon Congress passage of the Concurring Resolution.

"But we explained there is no need for six months ceasefire or moratorium of hostilities because there is no actual hostility except for sporadic (armed encounters) and always (government is) in defense," Guingona pointed out.

Gillego, during the NUC meeting with the President and leaders of Congress at the Palace, made the suggestion as an additional attraction for the government's peace process with all rebel groups, communist insurgents, military mutineers or Muslim secessionists. But Guingona pointed out that the consultations are still ongoing on the peace process so he could not categorically say that Gillego's suggestion was turned down or rejected by the President.

The government, in the past, has refused to declare any ceasefire with the rebel groups, citing that such a declaration would be tantamount to giving the rebel groups a belligerent status which they were not. Instead, the government observes what it termed as "unilateral cessation of hostilities" on limited basis every Christmas and New Year's season during the past six years of former President Corazon Aquino.

In last year's Christmas season under the Ramos administration, no moratorium on hostilities was declared by the government with the communist rebels following the legalization of the once outlawed Communist Party of the Philippines last December. Guingona yesterday reiterated the same position of the government against any ceasefire, citing the fact that a new amnesty grant will be extended by President Ramos based on the NUC recommendations.

Under the amnesty grant of the Ramos administration, Guingona said rebels do not need even to register themselves but they can show their desire to avail of this amnesty following certain procedures that will be spelled out soon by the government. Guingona said the President may submit the general amnesty proclamation when the Chief Executive makes his state of the nation address on July 26 on the joint session of both houses of Congress at the Batasan Pambansa [national assembly] in Quezon City.

MRRC Terms Peace Process 'Stage Show'

HK2107141093 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] The breakaway Manila-Rizal Regional Committee [MRRC] of the Communist Party of the Philippines today said the peace process is nothing but a stage show and that both the National Democratic Front [NDF] led by Father Luis Jalandoni and the Ramos government are insincere about pursuing the peace process. MRRC chief and spokesman Carlos Forte said the peace process has been slow due to the continued tug-of-war and the disagreements over the venue of talks between the National Unification Commission and the NDF, which is based in the Netherlands.

Forte said the Ramos government has agreed to hold the second phase of the peace talks in Hong Kong, but the NDF wants to hold the negotiations in Japan. Forte also charged that the Ramos government plans to use the peace process to trick the leftist revolutionary movement while it implements a stepped up total war against insurgency.

Senior Police Officers Fired for Misconduct

HK2207132093 Quezon City ABC-DWET Television in Tagalog 1000 GMT 22 Jul 93

[From "ABC-DWET News Program"]

[Text] A regional director and an assistant regional director of the National Police Commission were removed from their posts today as part of the police reforms. Replaced were Region 7 Director Benigno Dacanay and Region 11 Assistant Director Jaime

Quitain. Dacanay was accused of interceding to secure the release of a drug lord in Ormoc City, while Quitain was accused of the embezzlement and falsification of public documents.

'Renegade Leftist Rebel Faction' Stages March

HK2607103093 Hong Kong AFP in English 1020 GMT 26 Jul 93

[Text] Manila, July 26 (AFP)—About 20,000 supporters of a renegade leftist rebel faction tried to march on congress Monday in the group's first show of force since announcing its split from the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), witnesses said. Riot police blocked the group near a major roundabout about eight kilometers (five miles) from the House of Representatives, and later convinced the leaders to stage their rally at a nearby state-run university, witnesses said.

Protest organizers who would not be named said the group supported Filemon Lagman, chairman of a Manila-based faction of the CPP who announced an open break with the insurgent leadership earlier this month. The CPP has been waging a 24-year guerrilla war. President Fidel Ramos was delivering his state of the nation address at the congress building, which the unarmed marchers attempted to reach to impress on members their opposition to new tax laws.

The group brought along a flatbed truck for a stage, complete with speakers and power generator. "This is the beginning of our political battle with the regime of President Ramos. There are people who say that there are only a few members of the (Manila group). But look at this crowd," said protest leader Tony Tabado in a speech to the crowd which chanted: "Down with the Stalinists."

Lagman, whose group claims one-sixth of the CPP's 30,000 members and 500 of its 10,000 guerrillas, has accused Netherlands-based CPP founder Jose Maria Sison of "Stalinist" tendencies for trying to crush dissent within the party, and declared "autonomy" two weeks ago.

In an interview published by the MANILA CHRONICLE newspaper Monday, Lagman reiterated a threat to secede totally from the party, and warned that a new rebel army could emerge within a year if the CPP failed to call a congress to resolve the internal crisis.

"We will participate in many forms apart from openly supporting progressive candidates" in the 1995 congressional elections, he said without elaborating.

The insurgent crisis began in 1986 when the CPP was sidelined from the popular revolt that overthrew the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos because party leaders opted to boycott the preceding elections which had triggered the upheaval. Dissidents in the party have since called for a broader political struggle, including participation in elections, instead of concentrating on a 24-year- old armed struggle which has failed to catapult them to power.

"It does not necessarily mean that we want to get rid of the armed struggle. What we have been trying to work out is the idea of combining all forms of struggle," Lagman said.

Thailand

Foreign Minister Leaves for ASEAN Meeting 22 Jul

BK2307093793 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 23 Jul 93

[Text] Speaking to reporters at Bangkok airport yesterday before his departure to attend the 26th ASEAN foreign ministers' meeting from 23 to 28 July, Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri said that he will inform the other ASEAN members as well as the dialogue partners, namely the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, South Korea, and the EC countries about the current situation in Cambodia and the emergence of prospects for peace in that country following the recent general election and establishment of a provisional government. He noted that the Cambodian problem has been handled in line with the Paris agreement.

Asked what issues will be emphasized by Thailand during the meeting, the foreign minister replied that Thailand still attaches significance to cooperation with other ASEAN members and dialogue countries. Thailand will assess cooperation with these countries in the past year and plan future cooperation based on mutual benefit in political, economic, social, cultural, and technical areas. Efforts will be made to push ahead the ASEAN Free Trade Area scheme, which was initiated by Thailand, and further implement the economic triangle development program involving Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia. While serving as chairman of ASEAN for a one-year period beginning in July, Thailand will emphasize the roles of ASEAN and the dialogue partners in different areas. Next year's meeting of ASEAN foreign ministers will be held in Thailand.

Editorial Analyzes ASEAN Attendance at APEC Summit

BK2307100393 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 23 Jul 93 p 3

[Editorial: "Be Careful; ASEAN Might Collapse"]

[Text] The objective of the ASEAN grouping is for economic cooperation. Over the past 20 years, the grouping has become a symbol of cooperation among six Southeast Asian countries with a population of 340 million. It reflects their strength in the international political arena, at the UN assembly meetings, and at other international conferences. Now there is a sign that ASEAN is standing at a risky point which could lead to its collapse.

There have been differing views among the leading ASEAN members concerning the APEC [Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation] summit proposed by President Clinton in Seattle in November. Singapore fully supports the plan and will attend the summit. Thailand, although hesitant, it is believed will attend the summit because of the huge interest it has in dealing with the United States.

Malaysia is opposed to the summit and it is very likely that Dr. Mahathir Mohamad will not attend which could undermine the concept of the East Asia Economic Caucus proposed by Malaysia. Indonesia, whose President Suharto attended the G-7 summit in Japan as an observer, is still uncertain whether or not to attend the summit. Indonesia is waiting for a group opinion at the annual ASEAN meeting in Singapore on 22-24 July; it will follow the majority on this matter. The Philippines and Brunei will attend the meeting.

We would like to remind the six ASEAN members that their scheme for a free trade area is steadily progressing with all members pledging to reduce tariffs according to targets. There is also a plan to set up an ASEAN fund during the current meeting in Singapore. The ASEAN program for our population of 340 million might be checked if members are split. There is a risk that divisiveness might turn ASEAN into a meaningless institution.

We appeal to all ASEAN members to attend the APEC summit in Seattle no matter if they are for or against the plan. At least this would show the unity of ASEAN. Moreover, those directly attending the summit will benefit from the forum more than by reading a report about the results.

As for Thailand, we think that it is a must to attend the meeting for the sake of Thailand's interests both present and future.

Commerce Official on U.S. Trade Issues, Probe

BK2407021593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 24 Jul 93 p 15

[Text] Commerce Permanent Secretary Phatchara Itsrasena left for Washington yesterday to negotiate intellectual property and other trade issues, stating he would not resign even though an investigation into serious violations of discipline hangs over him.

Mr Phatchara said at Don Muang Airport that if he was suspended during the talks he would have to cease negotiations. He did not know whether the investigation would affect the talks.

On Wednesday, Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon ordered an investigation into allegations that Mr Phatchara had deliberately violated official regulations. Yesterday, Mr Uthai indicated for the first time that the charges relate to a complaint by Phatihan Bunsanong, former commercial officer for Chaiyaphum province, of wrongful dismissal. He was later reinstated.

An earlier investigation by a committee led by Deputy Minister Phaithun Kaeothong found some minor irregularities in the way the dismissal was handled but concluded that the entire disciplinary committee, whose chairman was the then minister, Montri Phongphanit, shared the blame.

Mr Uthai said yesterday that he had to order the new investigation into Mr Phatchara because of the findings of Mr Phaithun's committee. If he did not take action against Mr Phatchara following the findings, he would be neglecting his duty.

One source close to Mr Uthai said earlier this week that the Phatihan case could be used as justification for taking action against Mr Phatchara who is on bad terms with the minister partly because of the handling of Thai-US talks in March and partly because of factionalism within the ministry.

Mr Uthai said Mr Phatchara was still permanent secretary and should get on with his duties, while the investigation, which is a separate matter, should go ahead.

Mr Uthai also repeated his comment on Thursday that the talks are unlikely to be affected by the investigation against Mr Phatchara. Mr Uthai said he had laid the foundations for agreement when he went to Washington in late April and early May.

Only a few minor matters remain to be settled while the crackdown on copyright piracy, one of the principal US complaints, is now proceeding seriously, he said.

Mr Uthai said the only question remaining to be settled is the length of backdated protection for pipeline drugs that were already invented when last year's Thai patent law amendment took effect but were not available in Thailand.

However, sources in the delegation, whose leader is Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak, say the Americans remain dissatisfied with other issues including some provisions of the copyright bill that will bring computer software specifically under the law.

The Americans object to clauses that allow software to be copied for personal use, and allow "reverse engineering"—the practice of unravelling computer programmes to see how they are constructed and rewriting new programmes based on the information obtained.

Mr Uthai, who has not disguised his displeasure with Mr Phatchara, said yesterday he was upset about accusations that the investigation order amounted to bullying.

He also denied that the investigation committee was packed with Commerce Ministry officials from factions opposing Mr Phatchara. He said he did not know the official who lodged the complaint against Mr Phatchara, but he appointed a respected academic—Prof Amon Raksasat of the National Institute of Development Administration—as the chairman, and officials from the Civil Service Commission and other outside agencies as well as an unusual number of ministry officials in order to avoid accusations that the investigation was being rigged.

Suphachai Wants U.S. Trade Issues 'Back on Track'

BK2407031793 Bangkok THE NATION in English 24 Jul 93 pp B1, B2

[By Atchara Phongwutthitham]

[Text] Dr Supachai Phanitchaphak, the deputy prime minister, yesterday led a Thai negotiating team to Washington DC, hoping to put the bilateral trade talks back on track and clean up the mess Uthai Phimchaichon, the commerce minister, left behind on his March trip.

Uthai was reported to have secretly agreed to expand the scope of the Treaty of Amity, which defines bilateral trade and investment privileges with the United States, as part of his tactical move to save Thailand from possible trade rehliation by the United States.

During the Anand I administration, Thailand used the Treaty of Amity as a bargaining chip to avert US threats raising the possibility of scrapping the treaty if the United States introduced retaliatory measures against Thai exports.

The US Trade Representative is due to announce on July 31 whether he will recommend retaliatory measures against Thai exports in response to long-standing disputes over patent and intellectual property rights protection.

On the eve of Suphachai's departure, Uthai ordered the formation of an ad hoc committee to investigate the alleged misconduct of Phatchara Itsrasena, the permanent-secretary for commerce.

Uthai, who stays at home this time, was apparently intending to stop Phatchara, Thailand's most experienced trade negotiator, from making the Washington trip.

Uthai and Phatchara have collided over the approach Thailand should adopt in its negotiations with the US over a host of trade issues. The US has repeatedly claimed that Thailand is not providing adequate protection of the intellectual property rights of US industries.

Prime Minister Chuan Likphai on Thursday stepped in immediately to override Uthai's order, signing an executive order to allow Phatchara to accompany Suphachai to Washington. The prime minister realized that the Thai trade negotiating team would not be in top form in the absence of the experienced Phatchara.

Also making the trip are Sukhon Kanchanalai, director general of the Department of Business Economics, Suchai Chaowisit, acting director-general of the Department of Intellectual Property, Banyong Phuangrat, deputy director-general of the Department of Intellectual Property, and Karun Kittisathaphon, director of the Office for Cooperation in International Economic Affairs.

Suphachai will hold talks with his US counterparts in Washington next week, and carry a mandate from the Chuan administration to do everything possible to avert retaliatory trade sanctions.

Although Uthai lacked a governmental mandate to go to Washington in March, he made the ill-conceived trip anyway, apparently hoping to gain recognition in international trade negotiations.

Yesterday Uthai tried to put the best face on his controversial order to probe Phatchara's alleged misconduct, saying that the investigation of Phatchara would have no effect whatsoever on the Thai-US trade negotiations or his position as permanent-secretary for commerce.

But Uthai has dealt a severe blow to the Thai negotiating team through his attempt to discredit Phatchara, who has been the key negotiator with the Unites States over the past seven years. Now the United States has been provided with confirmation of disarray in the Thai camp.

Uthai, who trusts his advisers rather than career officials, was afraid that the presence of Phatchara on the negotiating team would alter the course—of the bilateral talks—which he committed the country to earlier.

If the worst comes to the worst, Suphachai will argue that Uthai's commitments should be considered void since he was holding the last round of bilateral talks without a mandate from the Thai government.

US government spokesmen have already acknowledged that they understood Uthai came without a mandate.

Questioned why he decided to place Phatchara under investigation ahead of the Thai-US talks, Uthai said his action has nothing to do with the talks.

"Investigation is a matter of investigation. Duty is a matter of duty. Everybody should do his best. Besides, I don't believe that the permanent-secretary is chicken-hearted," he said.

Uthai added that Suphachai should not run into any trouble during his Washington trip because he himself had done the groundwork during the last round of talks. "The US earlier sent us a note on the issues that it wanted us to address, and we have improved in all matters," he said.

To Discuss Copyright Law With U.S.

BK2507084193 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 25 Jul 93

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak, who will lead a government team for talks with the United States, disclosed before his departure that he will point out facts concerning Thailand's law on copyright protection to the United States. He said some misunderstandings remained on the part of the United States. He will tell the United States that certain points in the law can be amended at the parliamentary level. Changes can be made to the law in order to make it consistent with the free trade principle once there is a conclusion from the GATT [General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade] meeting. This means Thai laws also have international standard.

[Begin Suphachai recording, in progress] ... to make it consistent and to determine the scope of protection. We have to explain to them that we uphold international norms, and it is possible for amendments to be made to the law once there is a conclusion from the GATT meeting. Our parliamentary committees are screening the law. The law can be amended when it is debated by the parliament. We therefore have time to make certain amendments to the law. [end recording]

Touching on the changes made by the government, Minister Suphachai said amendments to the law will be based on several factors, including parliamentary deliberations, results of the GATT meeting, and the differences in the basic principles between the Thai and U.S. laws. He assumed that the United States would not make any more demands.

Official: No 'Perfect' Copyright Law

BK2607021293 Bangkok THE NATION in English 26 Jul 93 PP B1, B2

[Text] INTERNATIONAL and local software distributors and users should understand that there is no perfect law, particularly in the case of copyright protection, which would satisfy all parties concerned, a director of the Intellectual Property Department said in response to the industry's strong opposition to the draft copyright law recently approved by the Cabinet.

Wirawit Wiraworawit, the director of the department's technical and planning division, said that the draft was drawn up on broad principles based on an internationally accepted framework to allow legal interpretation when copyright violations arise.

"The copyright draft law was designed to be in line with international rules that Thailand has also associated with. When looking from any point of view, this law will show our country's progress," he said in a Saturday seminar on copyright law at the IT [Information Technology] Trade '93 exhibition at the Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre.

Thailand's computer software industry is facing a crucial transition to international legality for the first time once the draft copyright law is enacted. But most of the software makers and distributors have expressed dissatisfaction with the draft law, saying that it contains loopholes that will cause difficulties in the industry.

The software producers and distributors have said the draft law is too broad and impractical for the industry, particularly two clauses, 31 and 34, that are exceptions that permit certain uses of copyright software without penalty, such as using or making software for personal use or private use.

The software distributors and producers fear that the phrases "for personal use" or "private use" are too obscure to be interpreted consistently. For example, if a person copies software for his own use and gives it away to his numerous friends, would it be considered a violation of the copyright law?

Wirawit said that interpretation could be handled by the courts when problems could not be solved at lower levels because the draft law could not specify every detail to cover all cases that will occur.

Another concern of the software industry is that sales to the government sector, a significant market for the software industry, will be affected as the law allows government agencies to copy software under certain circumstances.

Wirawit said that they do not have to be afraid of the clause that allows the government to copy software for noncommercial purposes because the government agencies that buy it from software owners or licenses make deals defining the number of copies that can be used in their organizations.

However, court interpretation will be needed if agreement on the definition of non-commercial purpose cannot be reached, he said.

Wirawit has suggested that Thailand have a special court to consider the copyright violation cases so that procedures could be set up to solve the problems quickly.

"An Intellectual Property Court should be set up with authority similar to the trademark department to set penalties for violators. But it might be difficult to establish the court. Thailand might be the first country to have such a court," he said.

An officer of IBM (Thailand) said that though the draft copyright law was approved by the Cabinet, there should be a public hearing about it before it is enacted to avoid negative impacts on the industry.

Santi Rattanasuwan of the Intellectual Property Department said that if the law is enforced, software prices might increase, but the government will enact a measure to control prices to avoid affecting users too seriously.

There have been predictions that in addition to price rises there would be problems of interpretation by officials concerned who have different points of view.

"Normally, people have different attitudes. Attorneys, police, and courts, or even the industry specialists will have problems with legal interpretation," said Kemchai Chuthiwong, an official of the Public Prosecutions Department.

U.S. Stand on KR Said Affecting Reconciliation

BK2407093393 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 24 Jul 93 p 4

[Editorial: "America Should Listen to ASEAN"]

[Text] There had been some hope for a compromise in Cambodia to end the long years of rift when political parties contesting the recent election for a Constituent Assembly, organized by the United Nations, agreed to let the Khmer Rouge [KR] take part in the administration. Prince Norodom Sihanouk even planned a meeting with the Khmer Rouge in September.

But Prince Sihanouk later canceled the plan citing pressure from the United States as the reason. This was confirmed by a report on an interview with U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Clifton Wharton who said the United States will not consider providing aid to Cambodia's interim government in the presence of the Khmer Rouge.

It is clear the United States is resorting to economic pressure by threatening not to provide economic assistance if Cambodia does not comply with its wishes.

Concerning this, Cambodia might try to find its own way to solve the problem without depending on U.S. assistance.

Yet, there is concern that the United States might use its influence and pressure in the United Nations to withdraw assistance for Cambodia. If this is the case, there will be no hope for Cambodia.

The ASEAN countries have appealed to the United Nations and international organizations to continue to help solve the Cambodian problem. The six ASEAN countries' foreign ministers appealed for UN financial assistance to enable the interim government in Cambodia to function and thus to restore peace to the country.

The statement of the ASEAN countries constitutes a rejection of the U.S. position. We support the ASEAN stand and call on the United Nations and international community to thoroughly consider the problem. Only the Cambodian people can solve this problem. Presently, all factions in Cambodia are trying to adjust their stand to achieve a compromise. This is encouraging and deserves support from the international community. Otherwise all efforts already made halfway will be futile.

The most urgent problem for Cambodia now is to achieve national reconciliation. The Khmer Rouge are also Cambodians. If they are kept out of the process, how can national reconciliation be achieved for Cambodia?

Spokesman: Cambodia To Consider Logging Request

BK2407020593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 24 Jul 93 p 7

[Text] Cambodia's interim government will consider Bangkok's request to allow transport of processed wood and felled logs to Thailand, Foreign Ministry spokesman Sakthip Krairoek said yesterday.

Cambodian Foreign Minister Norodom Sirivut gave the assurance to Thai Ambassador to Phnom Penh Sunai Bunyasiriphan when the latter called on him in Phnom Penh last Tuesday.

Prince Sirivut told the envoy that a Cabinet meeting will discuss the request to export all processed wood which had been given permission by the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), as well as felled logs remaining in his country, according to the spokesman.

However, the Cambodian minister still ruled out reconsideration of log and gem contracts suspended due to the UN-endorsed ban until UNTAC finishes its mandate, Mr Sakthip said, quoting a report from the Thai ambassador.

UN peacekeeping forces will start pulling out of Cambodia next month according to the peace agreement.

Prasong, Cambodian Foreign Minister Discuss KR Role

BK2607023193 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 26 Jul 93 p 8

[Text] Singapore—Cambodian Foreign Minister Prince Norodom Sirivut reaffirmed yesterday that the Provisional Government of Cambodia welcomes the Khmer Rouge [KR] and wishes to bring them back into the national community. He said continued efforts of the Cambodian government and the Head of State Prince Norodom Sihanouk are aimed at national reconciliation, stressing that the Marxist group is also "Khmer" and entitled to be a political entity.

"It's good to bring the tiger into the town, rather than leave it in the jungle where it can be very dangerous," he said.

Prince Sirivut made the remarks after a 45-minute informal meeting with Thai Foreign Minister Prasong Soonsiri yesteraay morning.

Sqn Ldr [Squadron Leader] Prasong later said that he had a "straight-forward talk" with the prince about the guerrilla group but he refused to disclose the details.

The prince also refused to comment on the report yesterday that the US was softening its positon against the Khmer Rouge.

US Secretary of State Warren Christopher said upon his arrival in Singapore on Saturday that the US would accept Khmer Rouge's participation in the Cambodian government and would not stand in the way of financial assistance but under certain conditions.

Prince Sirivut said he was optimistic about solving financial problems facing the provisional government as he has learned that the UN was willing to provide some sort of assistance to run the country's administration and foot the salary of civil servants and national military officials.

He said Cambodia also had security problems but it was not too worrying because a national army could be organised at a more convenient time.

Sqn Ldr Prasong quoted the prince as seeking Thai support in that regard, especially providing military uniform. Mr Prasong reassured him that Thailand will do its best to help Cambodia and rehabilitate the country.

Cambodia also wants Thai expertise in the areas of agriculture, fishery and technical assistance Prince Sirivut said.

He said Cambodia should look at neighboring Thailand as a model for economic success.

"We have common culture and tradition, Cambodia would like to have very close links with Thailand," he said.

Army Chief: Russian Visit 'Highly Successful'

BK2507022893 Bangkok THE SUNDAY POST in English 25 Jul 93 p 3

[Text] ARMY chief Gen Wimon Wongwanit says his four-day visit to Russia was highly successful and will lead to more cooperation between the two countries. Relations between the armies of the two countries would be improved at every level, he said yesterday. Officers would be sent to study and exchange military technology and sports teams would visit one another.

While in Russia as guest of the government, Gen Wimon had a chance to see arms and military equipment and the lives of army personnel. He was particularly impressed by the engineering equipment, especially mine detectors. He denied that his visit was for arms purchases. He believed there will be no arms race in this region.

Sources said Gen Wimon was also taken to see Mi-17V helicopters. But the Army never had a serious idea about buying military machines from Russia, they claimed.

Gen Wimon said the Army has agreed in principle that the draft age should be lowered from 21 to 18 as in Russia.

The Army has found many unfavourable points in having the draft age at 21. For example, men of this age usually have many obligations including their work, education and family life.

Younger men have fewer problems and would have a better chance to progress in the military. If they wished to continue being in the Army beyond the service period, which would be shortened from two years to one year and eight months, they could study in higher military schools for both non-commissioned and commissioned officers, he said. If the Air Force and Navy agreed with this idea, legislation would go before Parliament for approval, Gen Wimon said.

Deputy Premier on Need for Technology Transfers

BK2407015993 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 24 Jul 93 p 6

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Amnuai Wirawan yesterday stressed the importance of new technology to industrial production and urged the public and private sectors to promote investment in technological applications.

He also emphasised that the development of technology in industry must proceed alongside the development of labour skills and other facilities to ease the potential for mass layoffs in the future.

Mr Amnuai yesterday delivered a lecture, "Research and Development in Thailand and the Need for Technological Transfer", at a Bangkok hotel, after which he said Thailand could not ignore investment in technological development as new technology was crucial to boosting the country's competitiveness in the world market.

"Abundant resources and labour cannot help (economically) without the development of technology to increase the country's productivity," he said.

But he also said it was essential to promote education and training to accommodate technological applications. Improvements in human resources, labour skills, equipment, investment incentives, financial institutions and laws must be carried out with the development of new industrial technologies.

He said the solving of problems involving the expected mass layoffs of factory workers by trying to block imports of new technology would be "suicidal" for the country's economy in the long run.

The Deputy Prime Minister played down concerns that the increased use of technology at faster rates than the development of labour skills would eventually force a large number of people from their jobs, saying the problem would not be serious as long as the country's economy remained healthy.

A thriving economy will keep generating jobs despite the presence of new technology, he said.

"Whether people will become jobless or not depends on the structure of the industries."

Mr Amnuai said wages may have already become a factor in deciding whether relations between employers and workers in labour-intensive industries are good or bad.

"That's dangerous. Employers and employees will not sympathise with each other if wages become a problem."

Mr Amnuai conceded people would have difficulty finding jobs if the economy slowed down as about 500,000 new job seekers enter the market annually.

Preparations for vocational training will help alleviate the problem, he said.

The Government is studying the impact on human employment caused by the introduction of new technology. At present, no unusual layoff figures have been found, he said.

Vietnam

Buddhists, Security Forces Clash in Vung Tao 9 Jul

BK2407061493 Hong Kong AFP in English 0549 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] Hanoi, July 24 (AFP)—The conflict between the Unified Buddhist Church and the Vietnamese government has spread to the southern coastal province of Vung Tao, where church followers clashed violently with security forces on July 9, Vietnamese sources said Saturday. Both a provincial publication and Buddhist sources said the clash took place when Buddhist monks and civilians tried to prevent authorities from removing Vo Hanh Duc as abbot of Son Linh pagoda in the Chau Thanh district.

The Ba Ria-Vung Tao gazette said Duc and an unspecified number of other people were arrested during the clash. Buddhist sources said 18 monks and close to 100 lay followers were arrested.

The incident, which lasted for several hours, was the most serious since Buddhist monks and local residents clashed with security forces May 24 in the central city of Hue. The state-controlled media have made no mention of the incident, however, except for the local gazette.

Ba Ria-Vung Tao officials said in the gazette that Duc had repeatedly broken the law by organizing "provocative" demonstrations and disseminating documents opposing Vietnam's socialist government.

But Thich Quang Ba, a Unified Buddhist Church of Vietnam (UBCV) leader in exile in Australia, said by telephone that authorities have been persecuting Duc ever since he began publicly supporting the church's battle for independence from state control a year ago.

Further on Incident

BK2407080293 Hong Kong AFP in English 0744 GMT 24 Jul 93

[By Andrew Sherry]

[Text] Hanoi, July 24 (AFP)—The conflict between the Unified Buddhist Church and the Vietnamese government has spread to the southern coastal province of Ba Ria-Vung Tau, where church followers clashed violently with security forces on July 9, Vietnamese sources said Saturday. Buddhist sources said the clash broke out when Buddhist monks and civilian supporters tried to prevent authorities from evicting Vo Hanh Duc from his post as abbot of Son Linh pagoda in the Chau Thanh district.

Several people were injured when army special forces armed with batons were called in to assist local police in battling stone-throwing demonstrators, a Vietnamese source said, adding that the clash had lasted several hours. The official Ba Ria-Vung Tau gazette said Duc and an unspecified number of other people were arrested as a result of the clash. Buddhist sources said 18 monks and close to 100 lay followers were arrested.

The unrest was the most serious reported in Vietnam since Buddhist monks and supporters clashed with security forces May 24 in the central city of Hue three days after a man burned himself to death at the Linh Mu pagoda there.

The state-controlled media outside Ba Ria-Vung Tau have remained silent on the latest incident, however.

Provincial officials said in the gazette that Duc had repeatedly broken the law by organizing "provocative" demonstrations involving several hundred people and disseminating documents opposing Vietnam's socialist government.

"Despite repeated warnings ... he persisted in his bad attitude," they said. "He even asked a 21-year-old mentally ill Buddhist to burn his finger to celebrate a Buddhist holiday."

But Thich Quang Ba, a Unified Buddhist Church of Vietnam [UVBC] leader in exile in Australia, said authorities have been persecuting Duc ever since began publicly supporting last year the UVBC's battle to be free of state control.

"Thich Hanh Duc issued public appeals for the separation of church and state," the monk said by telephone from Canberra.

Hanoi decided in 1981, six years after the country was reunified under communist rule, to unite similarly all the Buddhist "sects" into a single Vietnam Buddhist Church (VBC), which operates under the umbrella of the communist party's Fatherland Front. But several pagodas of the UVBC, which was formed in the 1950s but considers itself the heir to two millenia of of Vietnamese Buddhist tradition, have resisted state control. Their defiance is not taken lightly by Hanoi, which had praised UVBC leaders during the Vietnam War for their opposition to the South Vietnamese government, demonstrated most famously by the 1963 self-immolation of a monk in Saigon.

Close to two-thirds of Vietnam's 70 million people profess to be Buddhists, and authories have greatly liberalized religious practice in the past two years as part of the "doi moi," or renovation, program of mainly economic reforms.

But the conflict between UVBC leaders and Vietnamese authorities for control of the church has intensified since April 1992, when Buddhist patriarch Thich Don Hau died, triggering a dispute between church and state leaders over his succession.

In February, the provincial VBC committee excommunicated the 48-year-old Duc, accusing him of violating the principles of Vietnamese Buddhism.

On July 9, an official was sent to "work with" Duc at his pagoda but was taken hostage by his followers, who also resisted the other members of the delegation, the provincial gazette said.

Ba, citing sources inside Vietnam, said security forces used batons and tear gas to assault the hilltop pagoda, which was surrounded by close to one thousand people.

"The crowd was dispersed violently by beating, punching, etcetera by the police force, but patiently remained non-violent. Some lay Buddhists hopelessly reponded by throwing stones to protect the monks themselves," he said. "The government turned the temple into a battleground."

Vietnamese sources said only "a few dozen" people were involved.

Nguyen Manh Cam Meets With ASEAN Foreign Ministers

BK2507105093 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 25 Jul 93

[Text] Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam met in Singapore on Saturday with six foreign ministers of ASEAN countries. The meeting was to discuss the relations between Vietnam and these six ASEAN countries as well as other issues of mutual concern.

Government To Meet 'Soon' on Implementing Plenum Results

BK2407152993 Hanoi VNA in English 1510 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 24—The government will meet soon to discuss measures to implement the resolution of the fifth plenum of the party Central Committee on agriculture, countryside and farmers. At a regular press conference here this morning, Minister Le Xuan Trinh, head of the government's office, said that the government meeting will aim to institutionalize this important resolution by concrete policies. The government will also discuss its tasks for the second half of this year, review the country's socio-economic situation in the 1991-93 period and draft the state plans for the 1994-95 period.

National Assembly Standing Committee Meets 24 Jul

BK2507084993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] On 24 July, the National Assembly Standing Committee met with representatives of the agencies concerned to discuss measures to implement the legislative work program for the latter half of 1993. On behalf of the National Assembly Standing Committee, National Assembly Vice Chairman Phung Van Tuu commended the common efforts of all agencies, which have participated in the implementation of the legislative work program. Comprehensive and uniform measures have been taken to implement the National Assembly's 1993 legislative work program. Relatively fine results have been recorded and progress has been made compared with past years.

In the framework of the implementation of the legislative work program for the latter half of 1993 set forth by the Ninth National Assembly's Fourth Session, continued efforts must be made to adopt eight draft laws, namely the Law on State Business Establishments, the Law on Business Bankruptcy, the Law on Labor, the Law on State Budget, the Law on Power and Order in the Promulgation of Legal Documents, the Law on Organizing People's Councils and People's Committees (revised), the Law on Elections of People's Councils (revised), and the Law on Environment Protection. Between now and the end of 1993, the National Assembly's Standing Committee will continue work to adopt seven other legal documents.

Prompt and uniform measures must be taken to ensure that the legislative work program be carried out as scheduled. It is necessary to make meticulous preparations before submitting those legal documents the National Assembly and its Standing Committee, bearing in mind the need to pay due attention to contents, wording, and operating procedures.

Government Office Holds News Conference 24 Jul

BK2507091993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 24 Jul 93

[Text] Minister and Director of the Government Office Le Xuan Trinh convened a regular news conference on the morning of 24 July in Hanoi to keep the public informed of the government's activities.

According to Comrade Le Xuan Trinh, the government will meet to discuss measures to implement the party Central Committee's Fifth Plenum Resolution on agriculture, the countryside, and peasants. The objective of the move is to institutionalize this important party resolution through concrete state policies and lines. The agenda of discussions will focuss on 14 major issues.

At its upcoming meeting, the government will also discuss its action program for the latter half of 1993, assess the socioeconomic situation for the 1991-93 period, and set forth the orientations for the formulation of state plans for the years ahead to make the goals set by the Seventh party Congress come true.

Nguyen Manh Cam Meets Qian Qichen in Singapore

BK2307130093 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 23 Jul 93

[Text] Vietnam and China say existing border and territorial problems can be solved through negotiations. During their meeting in Singapore on 22 July, Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam highly valued the coming visit to China by Vietnamese President Le Duc Anh.

The same day, the Lao and Chinese foreign ministers also met in Singapore.

Australia

Canberra, Washington To Discuss Bilateral Issues

BK2307103493 Hong Kong AFP in English 0807 GMT 23 Jul 93

[Text] Sydney, July 23 (AFP)—Canberra and Washington want to coax Japan to accept a higher profile in regional and global peacekeeping to match its role as one of the world's leading economic powers, Australian officials said here Friday. Japan's posture in world dynamics—other than economics—will be high on the agenda of annual bilateral talks between senior U.S. and Australian officials in the northern Queensland resort city of Cairns next week. U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher and Under Secretary of Defense Frank Wisner will head an American delegation in the talks Thursday with the Australian delegation led by Foreign Minister Gareth Evans and Defence Minister Robert Ray. Both sides believe Japan should adopt what an Australian official described as "a more forthright approach commensurate with its economic standing in regional and global issues.

"I think we'd like to see Japan coming up front a bit instead of leading from behind in a whole range of issues," the official added.

The feeling is that while Japan is restrained by its constitution from all but a defensive military posture, it recently sent a contingent of troops to join the United Nations peacekeeping force in Cambodia and more of the same would be appreciated.

"For Japan to get a contingent of peace-keeping forces in Cambodia was a dramatic and major step for it and an agonising one," said the Australian official. "But there is a feeling that this process is too slow and lags somewhat behind its more dynamic image."

Although the talks will focus largely on security issues, regional trade—especially what are seen here as U.S. barriers to Australian agriculture exports—will also be high on the agenda. Officials here say the Australia-U.S. alliance is strong, but it is also clear it has come under enormous strain over a succession of trade issues, including the recent battle over access to international airline routes and restrictions on some Australian exports to North America. Of particular concern here is the U.S. Export Enhancement Scheme (EEP), which the official described as "something we are not going to single-handedly overturn."

"But we can keep nibbling away at it and also keep pointing it out to U.S. consumers," he said.

"Unless there can be some amelioration of what for us are fairly critical bilateral trade problems, then clearly this will eat away over time at public support for the relationship, rather than the alliance," the official said. "We continually make the point that we are a fairly significant contributor to the alliance to western security."

Australia will also underline a point it believes is sometimes forgotten by the United States—that in terms of bilateral trade, the imbalance favouring Washington in relative terms in bigger than the U.S. deficit with Japan.

Canberra sees the Cairns meeting as a particularly important opportunity to get at the Clinton adminstration "while it is still in a policy formulation mode." A principal objective is for Australia to try to influence the formulation of U.S. foreign, security and trade policies.

"The talks are obviously a way of reaffirming our alliance relationship, our alliance ties with the United States, not only because it is a new administration but because we are in a fairly fluid post Cold War situation," the official said. The United States, he said, is reviewing its own international relationships with a whole range of countries.

"We see it this year as an opportunity to stiffen the United States' resolve to remain constructively involved in Asia in both security and economic terms," he said.

Australia is currently engaged in a process of strategic review, while the United States is also engaged in what is known as a "bottom-up" review of its whole defence structure.

The two sides will discuss where they are heading. Canberra is concerned that while Washington's existing network of alliances has contributed to regional stability, a number of potential flashpoints currently exist, such as the Spratley islands, North Korea and Indochina. Australia will express the view that with the break-up of Cold War structures, more could be done to address these issues bilaterally, regionally and multilaterally.

Mongolia Signs Memorandum of Understanding

BK2307073693 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 23 Jul 93

[Text] Australia has signed a memorandum of understanding with Mongolia to assist the central Asian nation in its transition from a socialist to a market-based economy. The agreement was signed today in Canberra by Mongolia's Foreign Minister Tserenpiliyn Gombosuren and his Australian counterpart Gareth Evans.

The agreement provides for Australian assistance in the mining and agricultural sectors, English-language training, as well as humanitarian aid projects focussing on health care for rural women and children.

Senator Evans says Australia has expertise in human resource development and management, which will be valuable in Mongolia's transition to a market-based economy. Mongolia has started breaking up state farms and cooperatives and has begun selling or leasing livestock and machinery to individual farmers or small work groups. Australia will help with the establishment of new management and marketing systems in agriculture and other sectors.